THE INDEPENDENT

THIS THIS IS THE Independent Guirle to Home Cultiputing A DOWLO GETTHE BEST OUT OF

They drove Augusto Pinochet to face justice yesterday. This is why



General Augusto Pinochet yesterday heading for Belmarsh magistrates' court in south-east London, where he refused to recognise the jurisdiction of any court except Chile's 'to try me against all the lies of Spain'

Criminal Indictment against istral Investigative Court No 5, at the National Court, Madrid

On 11 September 1973 Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, born in Valparaiso (Chile) 25 November 1915, with Chilean National Identity card number 1.128,923 and Commander in Chief of the army, put a plan into action to oust the constitutional governmer sof Chile and end the life sident Salvador Allende Gossens with a military coup.

The following is an account of those tortured and killed in the first month of Pinochet's rule.] 11 September 1973 Pinochet, together with the rest of the accused... ordered the detention and subsequent

disappearance of the following persons, the majority supporters of President Allende who were taken from the Moneda Palace to the Tacna Regiment where they were tortured and afterwards taken away. sumably to be shot. Among these people were nine advisers of the President of the Republic and 15 members of the President's Security Guard. 1 Jaime Barrios Meza, 47, Managing director of the Central Bank and adviser to President Allende.

2 Daniel Escobar Cruz, 37, active member of the Communist

3 Egidio Enrique Huerta Corvalan ,48, governor of the Mon-

4 Claudio Jimeno Grendi, 33. sociologist co-leader of the socialist party, adviser to the Frorge Max Klein Pipper, 27,

psychiatrist, co-leader of the Communist Party, adviser to the President. 6 Eduardo Paredes Barrien-

tos, 34, doctor, co-leader of the Socialist Party, adviser to the 7 Egidio Enrique París Roa,40

psychiatrist, co-leader of the Communist Party adviser to 8 Hector Picheira Núñez, 28, doctor, adviser to the President.

INSIDE THIS SECTION

lawyer, member of the Socialist Party central committee. adviser to the president.

23. member of the bodyguard.

nalist, bodyguard. 12 José Freire Medina, 20. 13 Daniel Antonio Gutiérrez

14 Óscar Lagos Ríos, 21, leader of the Young Socialists. 15 Oscar Marambio Arava, 20. 16 Juan Mandiglio Murúa, 24. 17 Julio Moreno Pulgar, 24, office boy and telegraphist. 18 Jorge Orrego González, 29. 19 Oscar Luis Ramírez Bar-

Riquelame, 26, bodyguard. 21 Jaime Sotelo Ojeda 33, chief of the President's escort. 22 Julio Fernando Tapia Martinez, 24, chauffeur and member of the President's per-

Caroca, 23.

Oscar Ivan Soto Guzman, President Allende's personal doctor, was detained with the above. Immediately after being de-

were lined up against the front wall of the Presidential Palace with their hands on their heads. They were then thrown face down on to the ground. At around 5pm they were ordered to get up and a list was made of their names and details. Some were told they were free to go, like Mr Soto Guzman: however others, among them all those listed above (the last 15 members of the Socialist Party), were tied hand and foot and taken to a lorry belonging to the Tacna Regiment of Santiago, and from there to an unknown destination.

order for the detention and supporters through the Army named "Boxes" where he was

Another group of people, ac- 13 September along with 26 or tive members of the Socialist 27 other people tied hand and

11 Sergio Contreras, 40, jour-

20 Luis Fernando Rodríguez

sonal guard. 23 Oscar Enrique Valladares

24 Juan Vargas Contreras, 23.

tained, they were taken out of the Presidential Palace to Morandé Street, where they

11 September 1973. Augusto Pinochet gave the team. The same day at 6pm he torture of Presidente Allende's ment and put in the area

Colonel Castro.

Edited extracts from the 9 Arsensio Poupin Dissel, 38. Party, were detained by the foot, when he was taken away in his home and found dead the September 1973 and his body police at 8.45am

do Jorquera Levion, 27. 28 Enrique Ropert Contr- 37 Juan Garcés Portigliati, 20, eras, 20, active member of the Socialist Party and son of Allende's secretary, Miriam Con-

The last four detainees were taken to the Santiago service corps and then to the 6th Police Station. Their bodies were found apart from that of Domingo Blanco who remained "disanpeared" - at the end of September on the banks of the river Mapocho, under Bulnes bridge. 29 Antonio Agrirre Vazquez, 29. 30 Osvaldo Ramos Rivera, 22, members of the bodyguard and active members of the Socialist Party, were taken out of Moneda Palace by soldiers and led to the Central Post Office

where they "disappeared". 31 Francisco Lara Ruiz, 22. 32 Wagner Herid Salinas Muñoz, 30, both active members of the Socialist party and of the bodyguard, were intercepted on the outskirts of the city of

Curico by the military who killed

them on 5 October 1973. 33 Guillermo Jesús Arenas Diaz, accountant and active socialist, was taken to the Chilean Stadium, then to the National Stadium and thereafter "disappeared".

34 Emperatriz del Tránsito Villagra, 38, housewife, disappeared when she went to take food to her husband. 35 Iván Octavio Miranda

Sepúlveda, 28, mechanic. union leader, "disappeared" on 36 Oscar Luis del Carmen Avilés Jofre, 28, council worker, detained and "disappeared" when he left the Moneda

Palace where he had gone on the 11th as a member of Minister Pedro Wstovic's security was taken to the Tacna Regitortured and badly treated until

to an unknown destination. Later, in 1994, his corpse was 26 Carlos Alfonso Cruz Zaval identified, and the date of death

ed as 24 October 1973. bodyguard, disappeared at 8.40pm near Moneda Palace. after being arrested by the Police and taken along with others to the Santiago service corps.

38 Domingo Antenio Norambuena Inostroza, 38, worker, arrested and "disappeared" on 11 September, in the province of the Bio-Bio river in the Monte Negro sierra. 39 José Adolfo Rojas Méndez,

20, seller, arrested on 11 September in Chillan at about 9pm in his home, by the military, who took him to the Montana Infantry Regiment No 9, from where he "disappeared" at 5am on the following day. 40 Héctor Daniel Urruta

Molina, 22, active member of the Socialist Party, student, bodyguard. Detained at 2nm on the same day in the Moneda Palace by the military and taken to the Tacna Regiment, from where he was taken to an unknown destination.

The repression and selective elimination of people continued with greater or lesser virulence and intensity after 12 September 1973, following the orders of the ruling junta, comprising President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte; Admiral Jose T. Merino Castro, Commander in Chief of the Navy: Air Force Commander Gustavo Leigh Guzman; and General Cesar Mendoza Duran, Director of Military Police until 17 December 1974 when August Pinochet was named President of the Republic.

Violent action continued at a very high level: 41 Benito Torres Torres, 57, detained on 11 September 1973 at 9pm in Santiago by the police,

> ON PAGE 3 General Pinochet's words of defiance

Alonso, fisherman from Uruguay, age 26, was detained on 12 September1973 and

never reappeared.

44 Julio Roberto Quintiliano Cordozo, Brazilian, 29, engineer, Communist Party activist, was arrested on 12 September 1973 and taken to the military academy, where trace of him ended. 45 Tito Guillermo Kumze Durán, 42, employed, militant socialist, is detained by the police and died after suffering

multiple blows. 46 Drago Vinko Gojanovic Arias, Chilean-Yugoslavian, 23, chauffeur for the German Embassy and an active communist. Detained on 12 September 1973 in his father's house, and then taken by the military to an unknown destination. Later found dead with multiple gunshot

wounds. 47 Hugo Araya González, 37, reporter and socialist, wounded and killed by the military when taking photographs on 12 September 1973.

48 Luis Alberto Merchant Herchant, 43, detained on 13 September 1973 by a military patrol, punched, taken away, and never seen again. 49 Ernesto Trambruan

Riegelhaupt, 49, an active communist, was detained on 13 September 1973 and taken to the Ministry of Defence and was never seen again. **50 Enrique Ernesto Morales**

dead on 13 September 1973. 51 Jorge Gutiérrez San Martin, 41, mechanic, shot dead on 12 September 1973. 52 Fernando Sofanor Flores Acevedo, 42, bricklayer, killed on 13 September 1973 in the

José Maria Caro district, by the

military. 53 Socrates Ponce Pacheco, age 30, Ecuadorian, lawyer, was detained on 11 September, by the police and taken to the Tacna Regiment. Taken to Chile Stadium where his name was called out over the loudspeak-

was later found outside the stadium with eight bullet wounds. 54 Gregorio Monica Argote,

age 22 . student and active communist was detained in his home on 14 September by a military patrol and afterwards freed at the Chile stadium, no one has seen him since.

55 Herman Cea Figueroa, age 38, workman and active communist, was detained on 11 September 1973 with many others from his work and taken to the stadium. On 15 September he was executed by the police. 56 Victor Lidio Jara Martínez, 40, professional singer, theatre director and member of the Central Committee of Young Communists, was detained between12 and 15 September by members of the army. His body was found on 16 September in the environs of the City Cemetery along with five other

57 Littre Quiroga Carvajal, lawyer Director of National Prisons and active communist detained on 12 September and sent to the Chile stadium on 13 September 1973.

58 Charles Edmund Horman Lazar, 31, American film-maker and writer. Was detained at home in the Vicuña Mackenna area on 17 September 1973 by military forces. The same day he was incarcerated in the National Stadium where he was interrogated and tortured and later executed on 18 September 1973. His body was found in the municipal cemetery.

Melzer, age 21, chauffeur, shot In October 1973, General Sergio Arellano Stark, carrying out Augusto Pinochet's direct orders went to the north of the country to unify criteria for trials that Military Courts were carrying out all over the country, in fulfilment of this direct order. A) On 16 October 1973, at 11am, General Santiago Arellano Stark, Delegate of the Army Chief of Staff and the Ruling Military Junta, arrived at the local airport to receive the Commander of the ARICA motorised regiment, Lt Col Ariostel Lapostel Orrego. The same ers early in the morning of 13 day General Arellano ordered

the Serena prison in the Arica At around 1.20am they were

B) The night of 17 October fire and repeater guns. The the execution of 13 civilians, de-street in front of the "morgue tained in Copiapo, a fact suppressed by General Lagos Osorio, military commander of

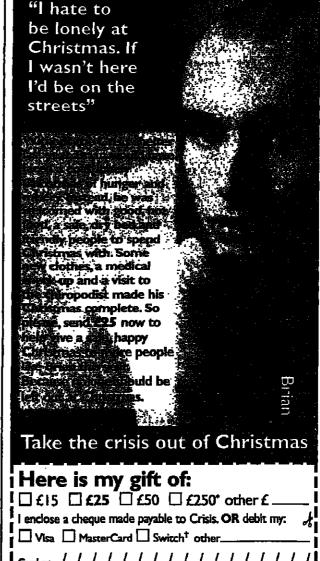
the zone. C) The next day 18 October 1973, General Arellano Stark ordered the execution of 14 people detained, awaiting trial, in the prison of Antofagasta, without the knowledge of General Lagos. The victims were transferred of democracy in 1990. It is at from the prison to the "Quebra-

shot with bursts of machine-gun

of Antofagasta hospital. D) On the following day, 19 October 1973, the same general, Areliano Stark, set off to Calama where he ordered the exe-

cution of 26 detainees. The indictment then lists nearly 3,000 more men and women killed by the military between October 1973 and the restoration

www.elpais.es/p/d/especial/pinochet



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Gynaecologist scandal ion against Rodney Ledward is spreading

The IRA said they would not surrender to be approved their weapons Foreign P16 Home PŽ Saddam's iron grip

Clinton trial debate At least one article of impeachment was set

UN sanctions tighten

Saddam's hold on Iraq

Foreign P17

Cadbury nets £1.1bn Cadbury Schweppes and Coca-Cola agreed a deal over soft drinks Business P19 SA vs West Indies

17 wickets fell in the

second Test

Sport P26

INSIDE THE REVIEW Fergal Keane Hopes, fears and memories in the new South Africa

Saturday Essay Supply and demand: the semiotics of Christmas shopping Comment P3 Comment P7

Sue Arnold Wall of sound Ronnie Spector on life Endurance riding and with Phil horses for courses Features P12 Comment P5

the cuit American author Books P14 The Christmas plant

Bret Easton Ellis

Toby Young interviews

Anna Pavord on the joys of poinsettias Gardening P18



2/HOME NEWS

Your turkeys and your gammons are your blocks in the drain, but once they start to go, it's like a blockage has been removed and whoosh, it's all gone and the customers are in there raping the empty fixtures?

Jeremy Clarke on Christmas stocking at Tescos THE BEST-WRITTEN SUNDAY PAPER IN BRITAIN, FEATURING KIT MCMAHON, RUTH PADEL, WALLACE ARNOLD, GILBERT ADAIR, TIM DOWLING, JOAN SMITH, MICHAEL BYWATER, JOHN SPURLING, GERALD KAUFMAN, CHARLOTTE CORY, IAN GILMOUR AND CAPTAIN MOONLIGHT

Germany presses for cut in EU bill

THE DISPUTE over the Euro- By STEPHEN CASTLE pean Union's multi-billion in Vienna pound budget increased yescut in German contributions and a British refusal to negoti- Britain's contribution. ate on its rebate threatened to throw the EU's enlargement programme into crisis.

Amid few signs of compromise, Germany's Foreign Minister, Joschka Fischer, warned that financial reforms were an 'essential condition" for ex- Britain was in the mid-Eighties. pansion in Central and Eastern Europe. Germany stepped up pressure on Britain's £2bn annual rebate. The Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, said: "All options have to be considered."

He was backed by the French President, Jacques Chirac, who said there should be "no taboos", while Sweden's premier, Goran Persson, said that now the "Margaret Thatcher age was over", it was time for Britain to pay its share. But Mr Blair insisted it was "not negotiable" because the level of reform of the common agricul-

terday, as blunt demands for a tural policy would not be enough to compensate for

Britain's rebate, worth on average £2bn a year, was negotiated by Baroness Thatcher in 1984, but four countries - Germany the Netherlands, Sweden and Austria - now say they are in a worse predicament then

The Austrian presidency is pressing leaders to agree to a March deadline for the resolution of the budget question, with everything - including the British rebate - remaining on the table. Mr Schröder has used particularly blunt language to articulate his demand for a cut in Bonn's 22bn mark (£8 bn) annual net EU budget contribution. This marks a decisive change for Germany, and Mr decessor, Helmut Kohl, of being "ripped off" over Europe.

Although at odds on the

London and Bonn agree on the need to freeze EU spending at its current level, plus inflation, for the years 2000-2006.

That is fiercely opposed by big beneficiaries of structural and cohesion funds, including Spain, whose Secretary of State for European Affairs, Ramon de Miguel, said he did not recognise Germany's call for a cut in its net contribution. "It's like a 20th-century Robin Hood, but in reverse," he told reporters. We've never recognised that there is a German problem. It's a problem the prosperous countries have to work out

The familiar, hard-line positions of heads of government prompted claims from the President of the European Parliament, Jose Maria Gil-Robles. that Thatcherism was "emerging from the grave". Mr Blair claimed a new con-

sensus on the issue of tax harmonisation, and Downing Street said that his contribution

issue of the British rebate, on the issue had been we comed by President Chirac. However, Mr Blair's contribution has been relatively noncontroversial.

Mr Blair's spokesman backed the idea of a March deadline, but added: "Basic pothere are real, detailed negotimission has estimated the cost of enlargement, which will bring up to a dozen Central and Eastern European countries into the Union, will exceed \$50bn.

Mr Schröder stepped up the pressure for British concessions on the controversial withholding tax on savings, arguing that moves to tackle unfair tax competition should be speeded up and resolved in the first haif of next year, during Germany's presidency of the EU.

Over dinner last night, EU leaders were due to discuss a

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES



Leading article, Tony Blair is greeted by Viktor Klima, the Austrian Chancellor, (centre) and Wolfgang Schussel, the Foreign Review, page 3 Minister, at the opening of the European Union leaders' summit yesterday in Vienna Michael Leckel/Reuters

BRITAIN TODAY Noon toda

FORECAST

General situation: Central, southern and eastern England will start very mild, dull and misty with rain and drizzle. However, the dull weather will become cor fined to the southern counties by the end of the morning with sides brightening for a time, but a spell of rain is likely to return in the afternoon and evening.

London, SE & Cent S England, E Angla: Dull, mild and drizzly with Steadier fain likely in the afternoon and evening. A light to moderate south-west wind. Max temp 12-14C (54-57F).

Cest N. NW & NE England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man, N Wales: Mist and driz-zle will clear with some decent sunny breaks developing. A light southerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F). N Ireland: Sunny spells but with showers breaking out. A light southerly wind. Max temp 7-9C (45-48F).

NW Scotland, W Isles: Sunny spells and scattered showers. A moderate to fresh south-west wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

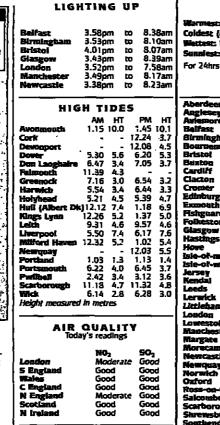
SM, SE & NE Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen: Sunny spells and mainly dry. A light to moderate south-west wind, Max temp 6-8C (43-46F). I Isles: Only slowly easing winds with showers. A strong to gale force south-rest wind easing fresh. Max temp 6-7C (43-45F).

OUTLOOK

Breezy but mild on both Sunday and Monday, Northern ireland and Scotland will have the strongest winds with rain returning, but most other places are going to be dry with some sunshme, the best of it in the east.

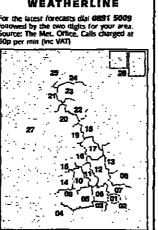
London: A41 Pinchley Rd. From Swiss Cottage to Fortune Green, Major works at Finchley Rd Gyratory, Until 31st Decem-Cambridgeshire A1 between Alconbury and Haddon. Construction, lane closures and contrallow. Until 31st December. and commanow. Lintil 31st December. Buckinghamshire: M40 between junctions 1a (M25) & 3 (Mycombe East). Three narrow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed innit in force. Until 1st January 1939. Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on Avonmouth Bridge. Until 1st January 2001. Norfolic A47 Hardwick Roundabout, Kings Lynn (A10). Roadworks between the pullover

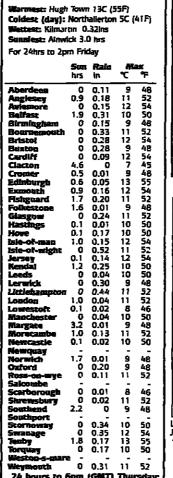
roundabout and the Hardwick Roundabout. Umil 13th December 1998. West Yorkshire. Mrt Between J42 Lotihouse Interchange (M62) and J43 Stourton. Roadworks and a 50mph speed limit. Hoadworks and a 50mph speed limit. Until 31st December 1998. Cumbries M6 J87 Kendal. Roadworks, carrageway reduced to 2 kanes both ways with a 50mph speed limit, 1 mile south of the junction. Until 18th Jenuary 1999. AA Roadwatecht Call 0335 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Squrze: The Automobile Association. Calls



SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE For the latest forecasts dial 0891 5009 Ollowed by the two digits for your area.





RAIN OR SHINE... TYPHOON FAITH battered the

eastern Philippines yesterday, leaving at least one fisherman dead and stranding hundreds Faith, with winds gusting at up to 95mph, triggered flash

floods and marooned 400 ferry

passengers on the southern tip

of Luzon island because of The body of the dead fisherman was found yesterday aftermoon off the island of Albay,



THE WORLD YESTERDAY



IRA says no to handover of weapons

THE IRA yesterday firmly ruled BY DAVID MCKITTRICK out arms decommissioning for the foreseeable future, thus deepening the sense of deadlock in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Its flat refusal to meet the hopes of the British and Irish governments, and the demands of the Unionist leader. David Trimble, is not viewed as fatal to the peace process. But it does seem to diminish the chances of any early resolution of the decommissioning dispute.

David Trimble and some other politicians have recently declared themselves confident that decommissioning will take place, though it has never been clear on what such predictions have been based.

Republican sources have poured cold water on such reports all along, and briefings given yesterday to journalists are regarded as a definitive statement of the IRA's present attitude. Republican sources con-

firmed that an IRA army convention, the organisation's most powerful decision-making body, took place recently. Its meetings The sources said that the

meeting had not been called specifically to discuss decommissioning but had considered it and firmly ruled it out. Sources added that the convention had reviewed all aspects of the political situation. There is said to be a great deal of anger in republican circles about Mr Trimble's apIreland Correspondent

proach. He is accused of blocking movement in the peace process and slowing progress down to a snail's pace.

In his acceptance speech at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo this week he again insisted that the IRA must decommission before Sinn Fein could be admitted to a new cross-party executive 1 Northern Ireland.

Republican sources also said a new IRA leadership had been elected at the convention, explaining that at such meetings the organisation's army council routinely came up for re-election. They would give no information on whether any important changes had been made to the army council's makeup.

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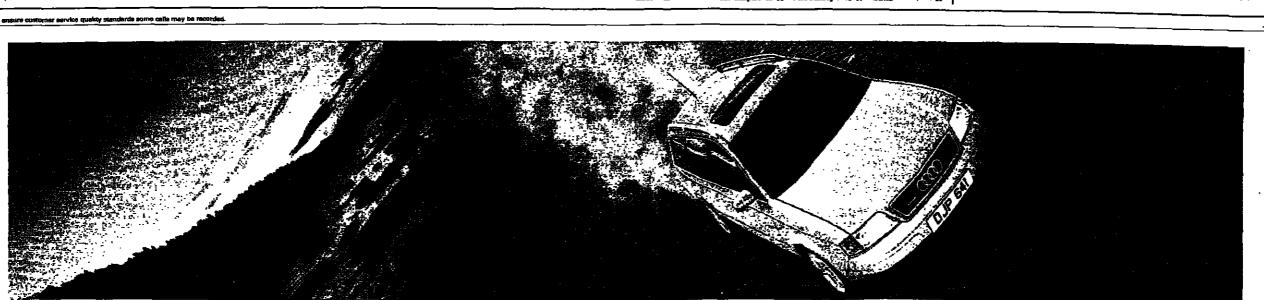
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Communicathe BBCs of the BB

The announcement was a bitter blow to Tony Blair and to the Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, who admitted they were out of ideas for breaking the deadlock between the Ulster parties on how to give effect to the Good Friday Agreement.

The leaders held emergency talks on the sidelines of the Vienna EU summit but emerged exuding exasperation and despondency and with their hopes of a pre-Christmas breakthrough fading fast.

"I can't do anything more," Mr Ahern said, making no attempt to conceal his frustration. "Both London and Dublin are at the end of their tether."



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Clashes outside court as Chile's old godfather is wheeled in to face charges

THE FORMER Chilean dictator General Augusto Pinochet denounced allegations of human rights crimes against him vesterday as he appeared in the dock for the first time since his arrest.

The 83-year-old general told the hearing at Belmarsh magistrates' court in south-east London that he did not recognise any judicial proceedings against him outside Chile.

Speaking through an interreter, he told the chief Metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, Graham Parkinson: With respect to your Honour, I do not recognise the jurisdiction of any other court, except in my country, to try me against all the

The defiant statement was issued as the general made his first public appearance since having an arrest warrant An artist's impression of General Pinochet yesterday at Belmarsh magistrates' court, south-east London. Opponents of the ex-dictator demonstrated outside (left) served on him two months ago when Spain launched an attempt to extradite him for alleged buman rights crimes during his time as head of state from 1973 to 1990.

He entered the courtroom in Pinochet Ugarte. wheelchair amid a massive being escorted under heavy guard from the house where he is staying on the Wentworth Estate in Surrey.

Outside the court there were rowdy scenes as hundreds of opponents and supporters kept apart by police - shouted slogans of condemnation and encouragement.

During the 27-minute hearing the general spoke only twice. Flanked by one of his ilean lawyers and the inter-



of the court to state his name. operation, which deployed

He spoke in Spanish, with his words translated into English "I am," he rasped with his chin jutting out, "Augusto

"I was the commander in lice security operation after chief of the army, captain general of Chile, president of the republic and actually I am at the moment a senator of the republic."

But for all the world, the hunched figure shrunk into a faded brown suit, with his hands clasped over a cane, looked like Marlon Brando playing the ageing Don Corleone in The Godfather.

The courthouse had seen the trials of the notorious Charlie Kray and several IRA ter-

more than a hundred police to surround the building, was more extensive than for any who had gone before.

Sitting in front of the dock in the oak-panelled, antiseptic courtroom, and staring balefully at the chief magistrate, General Pinochet made his brief statement, making clear that he did not recognise the justice of any country other than Chile, and concluded: "This is all I have got to say."

After the general's words were translated into English, Mr Parkinson responded to the interpreter: "Will you tell him I hear what he has to say but my duty is to conduct these proceedings in accordance with in England and I am sure he ist from the Chilean version understands that."

He continued that he had read the authority to proceed on the matter from the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, and went through the litany of alleged offences - "torture, conspiracy to torture, attempted murder and conspiracy to murder, hostage taking and conspiracy to take

If the charges made any impact on General Pinochet he did not show it. He looked straight ahead, occasionally lifting a mottled hand to slow the interpreter if he was going

Behind him, in the dock, about 20 supporters of the general, including senators,

of Hello magazine sat inside the dock. "The best place for them," said a Chilean reporter.

The court was told that General Pinochet's lawyers were appealing to the House of Lords next week to overturn the law lords' earlier ruling that he did not enjoy immuni ty as a former head of state. The basis of the appeal is believed to be the alleged link of Lord Hoffmann, who voted against the general, with the human rights group Amnesty International.

The microphone system failed in the courtroom and from outside came the insistent beat of a drummer among the 300 demonstrators, some of

the Pinochet regime, demanding that he should face justice. They were separated by a phalanx of police officers from pro-Pinochet supporters demanding for his release and voicing their anger at the betraval of their country by "agi-

tating communists". When the pro-Pinochet contingent spotted a black human rights activist, from Uruguay, one shouted: "You are not a Chilean, we don't have blacks in Chile, thank God we don't mix the races there." His companion, a plump middle-aged woman clutching a Harrods shopping bag explained: "We want to show the false picture painted of General Pinochet here. He saved our country, ter, he was asked by the clerk rorists but yesterday's security the Extradition Act passed deputies and a female journal- them former torture victims of your Mrs Thatcher knows that."

Human rights activists waving banners branding General Pinochet an "assassin" and a "murderer" dismissed his supporters as people who had been paid to come to Britain. Rafael Alvarez, a former political prisoner, said: "I am sure, given the chance, they would like to have us back in the torture centres. These are people from our

dark past." General Pinochet had been brought from his temporary home on the Wentworth Estate, at Virginia Water, to Belmarsh, in the urban flatland of southeast London, in a green Ford Galaxy sandwiched between police cars. He was driven into the courthouse through the back entrance, away from the

'A' Grade Washing

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Energy Efficiency

During the hearing, with armed police standing inside the courtroom, Clive Nicholls QC, counsel for General Pinochet, asked for bail conditions to be changed to allow his client to leave the confines of his house and make use of the acre of garden.

Mr Parkinson told the former dictator, who was indicted this week in Spain on 2,700 counts of human rights abuse, that it would be "inhumane" to deprive him of that pleasure, and agreed to the request.

The next hearing on the Spanish extradition request will be held on 18 January at Bow Street magistrates' court in central London, General Pinochet's presence will not be required.

BBC seeks 30 volunteers All round better to be castaways for year

IN THE ultimate fly-on-the-wall BY CLARE GARNER documentary series, the BBC is going to "shipwreck" 30 volunteers on to a deserted Scottish island and film how they survive for a year.

With echoes of Lord of the Flies and Alex Garland's The hugely successful independent Beach, the BBC is seeking people who are prepared to spend 12 months completely cut off from the modern world. The volunteers, who will represent a cross-section of society, will be expected to build their houses (21, of course, cope without any telephone, television, radio, newspapers or Internet.

Details of the nine-part series, which has the working title Castaway, are being kept strictly under wraps until the official announcement in the new year. A spokeswoman for the corporation said yesterday: "It's a very delicate situation. It's such a big project for us. We've got to get people to agree to this. We've got a very clear idea of what we want to happen, but they are not on board yet."

The series is commissioned by Peter Salmon, programme controller of BBC1, from Jeremy Mills, who left the BBC 18 months ago to set up his production company, Lion Television. Mr Mills has made his name with docu-soaps such as Hotel and Airport. The first three episodes of Castaway will focus on how the participants are selected and how they go about setting themselves up. The next episodes will track what happens to them.

A BBC insider said: "The key focus is going to be the evolution of a society from scratch, observing what kind of civilisation these complete strangers create. Who will be the leaders? How will conflicts be resolved? What will happen to unpopular citizens of this new society?

"The intention is to have a collection of people who are reasonably representative of the British population at large - an



engineer, a doctor, a teacher, a single mother, a candlestick maker. There are all sorts of questions to be resolved, such as whether to allow the castaways to keep in contact with intimates on the mainland."

group's daily way of life.

Producers are also still de-

by the four main terrestrial television broadcasters. ITV has committed itself to scouring the country for the first baby to be born in 2000. Then, not unlike in the recent film The Truman Show, the baby will be followed for at least a year.

BBC Scotland said in a statement yesterday: "Lion Television and BBC Scotland are in discussions about a ground-breaking documentary series for the millennium involving a group of people in a living experiment, exploring how society could change in the

Four years ago, the BBC did a one-off programme, Girl Friday, about how Joanna Lumley survived when she was left on her own on a tropical island off the coast of Madagascar. The Absolutely Fabulous ciding how to film the project star was equipped with no without intruding on the more than an SAS survival kit.

She recorded in her diary Costoway is one of a small that it was worse than being number of "mega millennium" trapped in Worthing in winter.

A BBC spokeswoman de-

nied that religious viewers

were being under-served on

performance from What we mean **BOSCH** by performance



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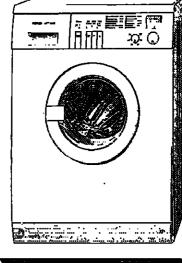
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Anger at 'Godless' Christmas

THE BBC has been accused of By PAUL MCCANN taking God out of Christmas by Media Editor a Church of England bishop who is outraged that the corporation has no act of worship on television on Christmas Day.

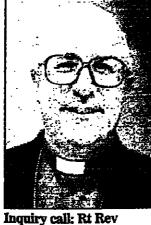
In a letter to The Independent, the Right Reverend Christopher Herbert, Bishop of St Albans, calls for an inquiry into the public service credentials of the BBC. He writes: "It claims to be a public service broadcaster. Nothing could be further from the truth as far as religious broadcasting is concerned.On Christmas Day on BBC television there is not a single act of worship."

At the General Synod this ar the church's communicaoutput because of fears that it the thousands of elderly and intending church that day."

was moving religious broadcasting to the margins. In October, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, pulled out of presenting an Easter Week series when he learnt the programmes would be aired in the 11.30pm "graveyard slot".

Bishop Herbert said yesterday: "There has been an abandonment of religious broadcasting. You have to switch between bands to find anything on radio and on television it is all being pushed to the margins.

"Christmas Day is not just any day. But the BBC is saying you can stuff yourself with food, tions unit announced that it but forget about God ... It would be monitoring the BBC's should be providing a service to sands of others who will be at-



Christopher Herbert firm people who would like to take part in a recognisable act

Christmas Day. "We are televising midnight Mass on Christmas Eve [and] a hour-long act of worship from Liverpool Cathedral on Christmas morning from 9am [on radio]. A more broad-based Christmas carol programme is on television in the morning and there is a bible reading in the evening. Often these criticisms come from people who are unaware of how much we do actually have on. The bishop is being disingenuous if he does not wish to include what we have on radio as well as television. There has not been an act of worship along with the thouof worship on Christmas Day on television for six years."

Letters, Review, page 2





Energy Efficiency

Inquiry call over 'demon'. doctor's reign

suffered at the hands of an incompetent surgeon are considering legal action for compensation in a case that is developing into one of the worst medical scandals of the decade.

The case of Rodney Ledward, who styled himself the fastest gynaecologist in the South-east, is continuing to generate scores of calls from worried women to the William Harvey hospital in Ashford, Kent, where he was allowed to operate unchecked for 16 years from 1980 until he was sacked

Mr Ledward, 58, who operated in NHS and private Bupa hospitals, was only struck off the medical register in September. Since then, 418 women have called the hospital about their treatment and lawyers say there are many others whose stories have yet to be told.

The Tory MP and shadow foreign secretary, Michael Howard, has called for a public inquiry into the case. Speaking in an adjournment debate late on Thurs-

Health Editor



Ledward: 'Arrogant with little regard for patients'

Folkestone and Hythe, said comparisons would inevitably be drawn with the Bristol bables disaster. "The tragic events ... are in my view at least as serious at the events that led to the

Bristol inquiry," he said. Alan Milburn, the Health minister condemned the surgeon and said the physical and mental distress caused to his patients should never have been allowed to happen. "I am appalled by Mr Ledward's activities and by the fact that they were allowed to go on for so very long. He was an incompetent. irresponsible and arrogant surgeon who seemingly had little or no regard for

Mr Milburn said ministers had now received a report on the case from the hospital and would consider calls for a public inquiry. Further questions had been put to the hospital including how no alarm bells had sounded when Mr Ledward was involved in 12 medical litigation cases from 1983.

He added that 168 of the 418 patients who had called the trust so far had been seen and a "preliminary analysis" had shown that 22 NHS patients and 15 private patients may have suffered injury.

Yesterday, that figure was disputed by lawyers acting for the women. Patricia Fearnley, of Thomson, Snell and Passmore, in Tunbridge Wells, which is handling the bulk of the cases, said: "That is very much on the low side. I am used to dealing with medical negligence cases and there are very few of these women about whom I have thought immediately they have not got a claim."

Ms Fearnley said a public inquiry was necessary because many of the operations were not needed and had been done in a private Bupa hospital, St Saviour's, in Hythe. There was a question about the lack of regulation of the private sector.

She added: "This man was a demon. Some women are only just starting to speak about what happened to them because it is very private. I don't think we have heard the full horror of it yet."

Horne's fast may end soon

THE ANIMAL rights hunger BY NICHOLAS SCHOON striker Barry Horne may end his fast this weekend, claiming visiting him in prison yesterday, demands for an independent inquiry into animal experiments.

After 66 days without food. the convicted fire-bomber is trying to study recent statements from MPs, the Government and its advisers. His supporters say that, if he decides they amount to the kind of inquiry he wants, he may start eating again.

He drank orange juice and sweetened tea for a three-day period earlier in the hunger strike, his third. That may help to explain why he is still alive after more than two months without solid food, Supporters say he was given last rites more than two weeks ago.

Horne, 46, was moved from York District Hospital back to Full Sutton prison on Thursday. He is serving an 18-year sentence for an arson campaign that caused £3m damage. After

that the Government has his friend Tony Humphries told moved towards meeting his journalists: "Barry has deteriorated rapidly as a result of his move. Because of the disruption and confusion Barry has been unable to fully consider these documents. He will now need a further day or two.'

The "documents" come from the Government's leading advisory body on animal ex periments, the Animal Pro dures Committee, and the Parliamentary Standing Group on Animal Welfare.

The chairmen of both organisations said yesterday that Horne's hunger strike had not influenced them, and the papers would have been produced in any case.

There is no indication that Horne's original demands for the abolition of the Animal Procedures Committee and the setting up of Royal Commission to examine animal experiments - could be met.

Charity defends animal testing

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST research By STEVE CONNOR charity has appealed to the Government not to change the law that allows experiments on animals for medical purposes.

The Wellcome Trust, which funds more medical research than the Government's research council, says a reduction or ban on animal experiments would have "dire consequences" for the treatment and elimination of human illnesses.

Michael Dexter, the director of the Wellcome Trust, has written to George Howarth, the Home Office minister responsible for animal experiments, urging him not to be influenced by the publicity surrounding Barry Horne, the animal rights hunger striker. "I urge that you adopt a cautious approach and avoid issuing a statement

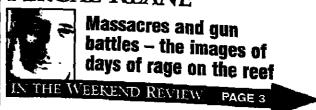
Science Editor

use for medical research," Dr Dexter says. "This would have major consequences of slowing or preventing the progress of . medical research in the UK."

Dr Dexter says 10 per cent of the "total world effort" in medicine comes from Britain. Animals involved in medical research are used only when strictly necessary and they are kept in the best conditions pos-sible. "What is completely deplorable is the threat by extremist elements to kill triose engaged in trying to help other humans and animals.

Discussions between scientists and peaceful members of the animal rights movement are already talking place and that could be interpreted as a could be placed on a more forcommitment to further reduce mal footing with the Governand ultimately eliminate animal ment's help. Dr Dexter says.

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Sharp rise in under-age pregnancies

FAMILY PLANNING experts By GLENDA COOPER said yesterday that an 11 per Social Affairs Correspondent cent rise in the number of under-age girls becoming pregnant was due to fears over the the 1995 health scare.

thousand in 1995 to 9.4 per thousand in 1996, according to birth figures republished by

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the Office for National Statistics. More than three-quarters contraceptive pill caused by of the girls falling pregnant were 15-year-olds, and more The conception rate for girls than half of them had abortions, aged 13 to 15 rose from 8.5 per the figures, first released in March, showed.

> Family planning experts worry that the contraceptive pill

that, because of health fears, girls may have delayed using contraception despite becom-

ing sexually active. Alison Hadley, spokeswoman for the Brook Advisory Centres said a rise in conceptions in all age groups had

been anticipated in 1996. "With girls under 16 you often find when they first start

scare of October 1995 means having sex they are not getting the idea of young motherhood proper advice." she said.

> "Eventually they pluck up the courage to come to a centre for advice and then, if they are in a stable relationship, perhaps go on the Pill. The Pill scare meant they were practising unsafe sex for longer."

But Ann Furedi, spokeswoman for the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, said

was being seen as more desirable, rather than something to

"While such pregnancies might not exactly be planned. they are not entirely an accident." she said. "For some, having a child is a rite of passage. Very often young girls have a romanticised view of what motherhood entails."

Both said that comprehensive sex education was the way to combat increased numbers of pregnancies by teenagers.

Overall there were an estimated 816,000 conceptions in England and Wales in 1996, 26,000 more than in 1995. The increase of 3.3 per cent in conceptions was the first since 1990, but births in 1997 re-

There were 642,000 live births in England and Wales in 1997, a decrease of 1.1 per cent compared with 649,000 in 1996, which had shown the first increase since 1990. The figures also showed a rise in the number of children born outside marriage. In 1996, 37 per cent of live births were to unmarried

parents, compared with 23 per

cent of live births 10 years ago.

registered jointly by the mother and father. In 1997 there were 142,000 births jointly registered by unmarried parents living at the same address, compared

with 75,000 in 1987. Births registered by the mother alone, indicating a loneparent family, have remained steady at about 50,000 each year for the past decade.

Admen sell out and hit the jackpot

FOUR DIRECTORS of a British By Rhys WILLIAMS advertising firm wake up today worth a combined total of nearly £20m after their company was bought up by a US group in a £346m deal.

Peter Mead, chairman of Abbott Mead Vickers, will be worth about £9m, while his cofounder, Adrian Vickers, who is vice-chairman, will see the value of his stake climb to nearly £7m. Michael Baulk, group chief executive, will get £1m of shares to go with his annual salary of £600,000 and Andrew Robertson, managing director, is also likely to supplement his salary of £483,000 with £1m in shares, while a further 70 staff members from across the group's associate companies will share in the windfall.

The agreed takeover by the firm Omnicom values each AMV share at 448p, 24 per cent closing price before the talks were announced.

Those likely to benefit include the PR executive Matthew Freud, son of the former MP Sir Clement and broth- profile work, it has diversified, er of the broadcaster Emma. Mr Freud sold his company, Freud Communications, to AMV four years ago in a deal that earned him £1m but he has stayed on and could net a fur- the largest advertising and ther £4m, depending on business performance. His early clients included The Big Breakfast, from where he developed

a longstanding friendship and business relationship with Chris Evans.

David Abbott, the agency's long-time creative head and final member of the founding troika, retired as agency chairman in October but it is thought he will garner some profit through the incentive shares he retains.

Through its award-winning campaigns for Volvo, Sainsbury's and Yellow Pages, Abbott Mead Vickers can reasonably be labelled Middle England's favourite agency. In a recent survey of clients for the trade magazine Marketing Week, the agency was named as the first a company would go to with a new piece of business. Its reputation has been founded on clear strategic thinking, crehigher than the company's ativity - its recent work includes the Carlo the Swimmer commercial for Guinness - and attentiveness to client needs.

While advertising has been the company's most highwith acquisitions in PR. direct marketing, contract publishing and sales promotion. Omnicom, which also owns Lowe Howard-Spink in the UK, is marketing-services provider in the world and has had a stake in AMV since 1991.



Business, page 22 | Emily Mason, 13, of Kent, at the first day of the Fair Trade Fair yesterday at Olympia, west London, sponsored by 'The Independent' John Voos | launched an investigation.

Landfill drives away golfers

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

IF MEMBERS of the Palleg Golf Club, in West Wales, are playing a little over-par, they may have good reason: the course is under siege from the stench of a nearby landfill site.

"We get coachloads of people coming up here to play but when they get off the bus they get straight back on again because the smell is so terrible," said Sharon Roberts, the club's professional. The club, at Lower Cwmtwrch, is considering legal action against the operator of the landfill site, which is licensed and regulated by the Environment Agency.

This week there was a crisis meeting of residents, club members and councillors but the Environment Agency was

"The point is that I am losing money," said Ms Roberts. "We had to cancel a dinner and dance the other week. I also teach youngsters from the local school but I cannot bring them to the course because of the smell." Takings for the year are down by £10,000 - a lot of money for a club that charges members £255 a year.

A spokesman for the Environment Agency Wales said it was in discussion with the owner of the site and the club to try to locate the precise source of the smell. "It is a sitnation that is ongoing," said a

A spokesman for Powys County Council said it had also

Child killer jailed for life

yesterday for the murder of fiveyear-old Lauren Creed.

Sate. 25, was described by judge, Mr Justice Newman, as a dangerous man who "did not hesitate to resort to violence". The judge recommended that Sate serve at least 25 years. Lauren's mother, Sharon, 25, was sentenced to a total of five years in prison on two charges of child cruelty.

Sate, who lived with Sharon Creed, was convicted of murder and cruelty by a jury on

stamped on Lauren so hard that her liver split in two.

The little girl also had 167 fresh bruises and abrasions on her body when examined by a pathologist after her death at her home at RAF Coltishall. Norfolk in October last year.

After delivering unanimous verdicts, jurors learnt that Sate had a history of savage violence. He was jailed for seven years in 1993 after stabbing a woman taxi-driver six times in a latenight attack in Grimsby and

to life at Norwich Crown Court trial. He had punched, kicked or sentence, in 1995, for causing grievous bodily harm by throwing scalding water over a fellow prisoner.

Sate killed Lauren less than a year after being released from prison, two-thirds of the way through his sentence.

It is the second time in less than six months that social workers and police in Norfolk have been under the spotlight after the murder of a child.

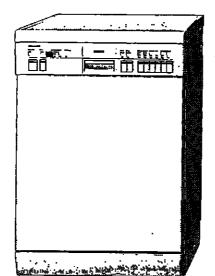
In July, a former prostitute, Helen Stacey, 46, a registered childminder, was jailed for life

GRAHAM SATE was sentenced Wednesday after a five-day was given a further 15-month after being convicted of murdering a baby in her care.

The Tory health and social services spokesman, Philip Hammond, vesterday wrote to the Secretary of State for Health, demanding an inquiry into social services' handling of the Lauren Creed case. Mr Hammond said it highlighted "yet another serious lapse in the operations of a social ser-

vices department". He added: "Such a tragedy must not happen again and I am demanding that those responsible are held to account."

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4 programmes 2 cleaning temperatures Height adjustable top basket

 Stainless steel interior • 12 place settings Very quiet operation

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Press vs Cruise and Kidman

THE ACTORS Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman have chalked up another success over the inarrest in Los Angeles of a photographer who allegedly record-per in the United States. ed a telephone conversation sell it to a British Sunday tabloid.

the mobile phone conversation

BY RHYS WILLIAMS

ternational tabloid press with the last February, taping it and then selling it to The Globe newspa-Mr Ford is reported to have

between the couple and tried to first tried to sell the tape to the News of the World, before The Globe ran a piece last June asking "Is Tom Cruise's Marriage Hanging by a Thread?" and de-15 years in prison if he is con- tailing "a lovers' spat between victed of illegally intercepting the famous couple".

Mr Cruise and Ms Kidman are bringing a civil suit against the tabloid, claiming that their words were spliced together from different conversations.

A Globe spokesman said his paper did nothing "illegal or inappropriate" in running its story, and no criminal charge has been filed against the paper In October, Mr Cruise and Ms Kidman were awarded £200,000

press on Sunday.

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Actor Ewan McGregor (right) with Christopher Parker, 4, and his nurse at the newly expanded Children's Accident & Emergency Department which opened yesterday at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital; the 24-hour unit is the only one of its kind in west London Neville Elder

Blair warns of party rift on economy

TONY BLAIR has warned that By Andrew GRICE a dangerous gulf may open up between the Government and the Labour Party as the economy worsens and ministers take unpopular decisions.

At a series of private meetficials, the Prime Minister has urged them to act as "ambassadors" to take the Government's message to the party's grass roots. He believes it is vital to keep the support of Labour activists to avoid losing the backing of the wider elec-

torate. Mr Blair is worried that growing criticism of "control freakery" by the leadership will turn ordinary party members against his Government. "At the next elections, the key issue will not be spin doctors or control freaks, but whether the Government appears to have Neville Elder | been competent and to have

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Political Editor

managed the economy well, improved education and health and done something to build a fairer society," he told one ings with Labour MPs and of-meeting. "Any Government has to make decisions and it is necessary to say 'No' as well as 'Yes' This can lead to difficulties with the Government's supporters, unless the Government explains those deci-

Although Mr Blair wanted a "strong dialogue" between the Government and party, so members understood the reasons for "difficult decisions", he warned: "Members must not become so preoccupied with the four things with which they disagree that they lose sight of the 50 things they do agree with, and which would never have happened under a Tory government."

At another session, he appealed to Labour MPs to remain "firm, calm and engaged" while debating the "difficult questions" over the economy, the welfare state and constitutional reform. He admitted the coming year would be "particularly difficult".

Mr Blair said the party should remember the position it wanted to be in at the next general election: "We must highlight the clear dividing lines between the Conservatives' backward looking approach and Labour's agenda of combining a high level of social justice with a modern, com-

petitive economy."

to drive this message home, maintain confidence and never lose sight of the big picture. Labour MPs have a very important role to play in ensuring this message is got across to the party as if the party is with the Government, the country will follow and we will be on course to win the next election."

Aides said that Mr Blair was determined to avoid the splits between the Government and party which bedevilled the Labour administrations of the 1960's and 1970's and the last government under John Major

The Prime Minister will reinforce his campaign at a series of meetings with Labour activists around the country in the New Year.

Close allies admit that Mr Blair concedes that some mistakes had been made. For example, he accepts there is genuine resentment amongst grass roots members in Wales at the "top down" decision making by Labour's Milbank headquarters in London. Mr Blair has been criticised for refusing to support Rhodri Morgan, the Labour backbencher, who is seeking to become the party's candidate for First Secretary in the new Welsh Assembly, after the resignation of Ron Davies. Mr Blair is backing Alun Michael, who succeeded Mr Davies as Welsh Secretary.

■ The Labour party's backbenchers have been the most rebellious of any Government since the end of the Second World War, a new study of Commons voting by Hull Universi-ty has found. There have been He went on: "Everyone at 16 rebellions by 78 MPs during every level in the party needs the first session of Parliament.

IN BRIEF

Abuse investigation discussed

COUNCIL LEADERS in Newcastle upon Tyne are considering whether to question more than 1,000 children following allegations of paedophile abuse. The city council was widely criticised last month in an independent review tfor failing to spot multiple child abuse at one of its nurseries, which allegedly involved up to 60 children.

Police get new lead in murder hunt POLICE IN London investigating the racial murder of the black musician Michael Menson have received tip-offs from two anonymous witnesses naming his killer. The death of Mr Menson, who was set on fire in a street attack 22 months ago, was initially treated by police as suicide, but at an inquest in September a jury returned a verdict of unlawful killing.

Minister plans buildings strategy CHRIS SMITH, the Secretary of State for Culture will, on Monday, announce a new government body to advise on a national strategy for architecture. The body will come from merging the Royal Fine Art Commission with the Arts Council and Crafts Council, and will set up a network of regional offices to look at local building schemes.

PAUL VALLELY



I have a feeling that my mum might have been drawn into some cult

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Raise statues to people, not concepts

NOTEBOOK /



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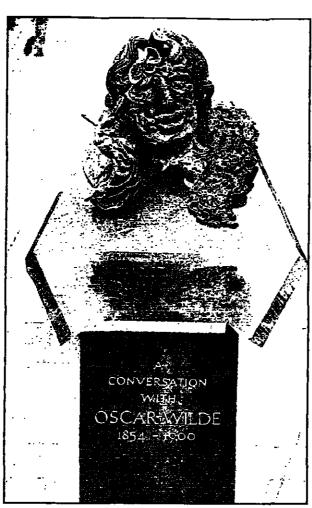
THERE HAS recently been a series of small controversies about public statues in London large controversies, even, if you read the tabloids.

A few weeks ago, when we were remembering the 80th anniversary of the end of the First World War, The Express mounted a campaign to pull down the statue of General (Earl) Haig in Whitehall. Last week the Daily Mail thought the new statue to Oscar Wilde, a few hundred yards from Haig, in Adelaide Street, was a damned disgrace. Both papers argued that the memory of neither man should be publicly honoured: Haig because he was a "butcher", Wilde because he was a "paedophile".

Campaigning to demolish a statue of one eminent Victorian, protesting against the erection of a statue to another: what to make of this? It may show that, as someone once remarked, "all history is contemporary", subject to the continual shifts of scholarship and opinion. It may also show two newspapers chasing two different markets, with The Express keen to establish its new, "progressive" credentials after failing utterly to challenge the Mail in the old unprogressive English heartland.

But who could have imagined, when Charles Saatchi and his new British artists have ruined our appetite for outrage, that something as quaint as representational (or fairty representational) public sculpture could be used as a tool to excite public opinion?

On Thursday, I went to have a look at the new Oscar Wilde, which was unveiled last month before an assembly of the great and good - Sir Jeremy Isaacs. Stephen Fry - who had organstatue give an impression of with him (though would the po-



lice move you on?); his hunothing more complicated than manity and disgrace "in the

gutter" offer hope for us all.

The bust, by Maggi Ham-bling, sits on a piece of dark pol-I looked at the monument for a few minutes and at first ished marble about the size and rather disliked it. Wilde's head. shape of a coffin, except that it spotlit and the same coppergreen as his carnation, is a holslopes up at each end like a divan. Wilde's head rises from low ball of swirling metal the northern slope, facing on worms. He looked like death. the southern slope his words: Half-decayed, half-eaten, he "We are all in the gutter but might have just burst through some of us are looking at the the coffin-lid. Also, why the stars." He holds a jaunty cigaegalitarian tricksiness? Wilde rette in his right hand. The marwas hardly "the people's ble is not simply inscribed with writer" and his new role as a Wilde's name, profession and gay martyr looks dubious. His dates, but has a title: "A Conlibel suit against the accusation versation with Oscar Wilde." of homosexuality doesn't sug-The monument sits below gest heroism, and if he hadn't eye-level in a pedestrianised pursued it (a lesson here for street and you can work out the Jonathan Aitken) his subseintention quickly enough. Wilde quent prosecution would never is one of us, not a hero "up on have happened. But he was a

a bust on a pedestal, but this is

a pedestal"; anyone - drunk,

not quite right.

beggar, lunatic, romantic monument, something to look could lean back at one end of up to, would have been fine. After a while in Adelaide the monument, face Wilde and Street, however, I saw that I have a pretend conversation was probably wrong. It was a

Oscar Wilde, Noel Coward and Earl Haig each enjoys the distinction of having his statue in the capital, a largely Victorian tradition that deserves to be revived

wet evening, but many people stopped, read the inscriptions and smiled. Underneath their umbrellas, one woman tourist said to another: "It's neat." Wilde was being noticed for his modesty, not something he was much known for when alive, but a hard thing to

achieve in modern life. Then I went on my way to see another new statue in Covent Garden, and the same thought struck me with particular force when I popped into a tourist-tat shop to buy a postcard. The shop was filled floor to ceiling with penises: penises that spoke, penises worked by clockwork, penises as candles, chocolate penises, pasta penises, penis moulds which you fill with water or orange squash, put in the freezgreat playwright. A greater er and then withdraw as ice or lollipops. Customers came and went. None seemed surprised. Nobody gasped. And there, over the road in the fover of the Theatre Royal, sits Noel Cow-

ard who once - 50, 60 years ago - seemed ever so daring and, sexually, slightly dangerous.

His old friend, the Queen Mother, unveiled him last week. He also flaunts a cigarette - this may now be his most daring aspect - and we meet him, like Wilde, at the same level. No need to look up. Coward sits down while Shakespeare in another corner stands above us, pointing with a quill at a manuscript. Shakespeare's is what you might call the conventional male posture, the missionary position, of statuary. Kings stand or ride on horseback; queens sit on thrones.

Now - the last leg of this brief tour of London statues -I walked through the rain to Trafalgar Square to look at the site that has been selected for some unconventional statuary. than which (some Wildean paradox would be appropriate here) nothing can now be more conventional

As well as Nelson on his col-

umn, Trafalgar Square has three full-figure statues. In front of the column, facing down Whitehall, stand generals Havelock and Napier, who conquered and subdued the Indian empire. At the rear of the column, above the square's north-west corner, King George III rides on his horse. A similar plinth on the northeast corner was meant for George IV, but the money was never found and the plinth has stood empty since the square was built in 1841. The most recent plan to fill it was revealed by the Royal Society

as though it will succeed. According to this plan, not one but three pieces of sculpture will fill the space. Each will be there for a year, starting next year, and eventually all will find a permanent home in the Goodwood Sculpture Park in West Sussex. The artists are:

of Arts to a meeting of West-

minster council's planning

committee this week and looks

"exciting" and of course the phrase "contemporary (see exciting, above] British art" wasn't far behind. But I don't scoff. Each will make the square more interesting. The question is: what will fill the space after this three-year stop-gap? I have a simple but radical

ferred to these possibilities as

solution: a large statue of an individual human being, a citizen of Britain and its former empire who deserves to be remembered. When I got home from Trafalgar Square, I looked up Weinreb and Hibbert's London Encyclopaedia (a wonderful book) to see how many statues London had. Including busts, masks and medallions, but excluding those indoors (in, for example, museums and churches), the total comes to 286. That seems a lot; it is a lot. But many are to the same people. King Edward VII, the most popular male statue, has nine: Queen Victoria, the most popular woman, has seven. The choice reflects the history and social attitudes of statuary's boom time between about 1830 and 1914.

How many are to women? Ten per cent (of which Queen Victoria makes up 25 per cent). How many are to non-whites? Less than 1 per cent (a total of two statues, in fact, and both of Indians, Gandhi and Krishna wants to fill the plinth with a Menon)

Rachel Whiteread, who

clear resin cast of the plinth,

upside down. Whiteread: "After

spending time in Trafalgar

Square ... I became acutely

aware of the general chaos of

central London life. I decided

pause, a quiet moment for the

Marc Wallinger, with a life-

size statue of Christ in white

marble. Wallinger: "The puri-

ty of the white marble and the

humility of its life size would

provide an immediate con-

trast with the outsized black

Bill Woodrow, with an en-

twined bronze of a book, a

human head and a tree titled

Woodrow: "It makes reference

to the never-ending cyclical re-

lationship between civilisa-

tions, knowledge and the

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bronze relics of empire."

This is not just an argument of political rectitude. All sorts of people are missing. There are no outdoor statues so far as I can tell to legendary men such as Drake, Watt, George that the most appropriate Stephenson, Charles Darwin. sculpture would be to make a Writers are badly represented: no Austen, George Eliot, Shaw, Wells, Wordsworth; even Dickens (to whom the imagination of London owes so much) has

nothing full-size and majestic. The lesson of Oscar Wilde's new statue may be that we should revive the old Victorian habit of statue-building, have more arguments about who should be memorialised and how, and rightly complicate our understanding of the past. People respond to individual lives. The abstractions of resin plinths and bronze books in Trafalgar Square are not the bravest but the safest option. The risk is Diana. The prize is Dickens or Darwin.

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Hard time at Committee on Soft Furnishings

A BATTLE royal looms next week between two of Parliament's most formidable women over proposals from the Modernisation Committee to begin Commons business on Thursday mornings and to introduce a one-week recess, to coincide with school half-term in February.

Margaret Beckett, the Leader of the Commons, favours the change but the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, is unhappy.

Although there will be a free vote, the Conservatives' deputy Leader of the Commons, Sir Patrick Cormack, fears there will be a defacto "whipped" vote on Labour's payroll of ministers and parliamentary private secretaries. The previous government used to enclose voting instructions inside the weekly whip, sent to the payroll, whenever it wanted to get its way on a free vote. MPs fear this same trick will be

Tory Eric Forth and Labour's Den-Committee, chaired by Rhodri Mor-



THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER MICHAEL BROWN

nis Skinner, regard "modernisation" as a code for reducing the hours available to make trouble for the Government.

Jack Cunningham appeared be-Most "parliamentarians", led by fore the Public Administration

Minister for the Cabinet Office.

In attempts to be matey, Mr Cunningham dispensed with civil servants to sit alongside and assistant him and called everyone on the committee by their first names, as is now the practice in Cabinet.

But his smooth charm cut no ice with the new Tory rottweiler, David Ruffley, who is shaping up as the rudest member of Parliament. Saying Mr Cunningham was as "potent as a politically neutered tom" he made heavy weather of allegations regarding office refurbishments and a proposal to take over Admiralty Arch, "You've got a bit of previous," he told the minister when he pored over the entrails of Mr Cunningham's move, as Minister of Agriculture, to a new expensive office building.

Mr Cunningham's charm deserted him as he retorted: "I thought I was coming to a Select Committee, not a political kinder-

gan, to give evidence on his work as garten." When the minister ex- Straw has got his own back on plained that the expenditure was to Robin Cook, who failed to inform bring together 650 staff, spread over eight buildings, under one roof in Admiralty Arch, which is a Grade I listed building in need of from the Chileans. The Ministry of Defence will restoration, most members appeared satisfied. But Mr Ruffley persisted with questions on office furniture. Mr Cunningham revealed that he had bought "a new carpet and a couple of settees from Marks

> Hero of the week was Jack Straw, who united Labour MPs with his decision to allow extradition proceedings to begin against General Pinochet. They were bleened by the Whins' office on their pagers with the glad tidings and were dancing jigs of delight. Mr

& Spencer", causing Labour's Peter Bradley to begin his cross-

examination with the words: "Wei-

come to the Select Committee on

Soft Furnishings".

him of the general's red carpet arrival in September and who will now have to face the diplomatic fall-out

also have an awkward time retaining dry-dock facilities in Chile for Royal Navy vessels in South America. Questioned by Tory MP Tim Loughton about such arrangements, the Defence minister John Spellar said: "The good relations we have (Loughton: 'had') with our Chilean counterparts will continue." Mr Spellar ought to reappraise the situation quickly.

Geoffrey Robinson, Paymaster-General, looked even more embattled than usual during Treasury questions as he sat glumly alongside Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, while deputising for Gordon Brown, who

Challenged by Francis Maude, the Conservatives' frontbench spokesman, that Mr Robinson should be sacked, Mr Byers predicted that he would be working with the Paymaster-General in the months"

(note: not years) ahead. But the words from Tony Blair in answer to Tory MP Edward Garnier were more evasive. Mr Garnier asked the Prime Minister for "three good reasons why Mr Robinson should remain in office". Caught off guard by the brevity of the question, there was no attempt by Mr Blair to give a specific endorsement to Mr

Instead, he said any minister who is guilty of serious wrongdoing would be dismissed". Presumably Mr Robinson's wrongdoing is not yet regarded as "serious" but the omens do not look good for his long-term survival. Mr Robinson appears to have been stripped of most of his ministerial

was attending his father's funeral responsibilities and he now an swers virtually no oral questions or debates.

> The Government got its comeuppance over its vacillation and delay on its election manifesto commitment to introduce a "right to roam" bill Legislation has failed to materialise and Labour backbenchers are losing patience with the Environment minister, Michael Meacher, who is trying to do a cosy deal with landowners.

> Gordon Prentice, the splendidly off-message left-wing MP for Pendle, drew fifth place in the ballot for Private Members' Bills and has decided to introduce a Bill on the right to roam. Party managers are furious but poweriess to prevent a debate in the new year. The Bill is likely to receive a second reading but Labour whips will be encouraging loyal robots and Tory MPs to filibuster against Mr Prentice.

£1 toll to use M25 is on the horizon

RADICAL PLANS to charge motorists at least £1 a time to use the M25 are being considered by the Government as a part of its drive to cut traffic on the nation's roads.

road pricing on Britain's most London and on the motorway. congested motorway emerged, vesterday, as one of several high-profile options for John Prescott's flagship anti-pollution policy.

Drivers are already charged to use the Dartford tunnel that links the north and south sections of the M25 and ministers the whole of the motorway would be feasible.

The change is deemed so polikely to be introduced until

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

plan, a sum that Treasury officials believe could be used to The proposal to introduce improve public transport in

Car drivers who use the Dartford Tunnel have to pay £1 and lorry drivers £2.70, but legislation is needed to extend the charging regime. Officials at Mr Prescott's Department of the Environment, Transport, and the Regions are looking a ways of extending the levy to are understood to believe that cover the whole motorway. an extension for charges to probably by introducing cameras that would recognise vehicles with a smart card.

News of the scheme follows litically sensitive that it is un-Prescott's consultation paper after the next general election; on giving councils the power to but its backers believe it is in- impose charges in their area. The paper also disclosed that More than £200 million a the proposed legislation would



Prescott: Looking at pollution-friendly options

and motorways. A bill to allow pilot projects could come in the current session of Parliament if Tory peers abandon their campaign to disrupt all Gov-

ernment business. Road pricing powers are London Bill for a directly electcapital. The only motorway so year could be raised from the allow charging on trunk roads far to be ear-marked for tolls is fund it, not the metorist."

the northern relief road around Birmingham, a public-private partnership inherited from the

last Government. A spokesman for Mr Prescott's department said that no decisions had been made. "A charge scheme would only be feasible with full electronic technology and pilots could only occur once legislation has been passed,"he said.

Chris Fisher, of Fight Link

Roads and M25 Expansion (FLAME) said that the plans were aimed at funding extra lanes to the motorway. "People to the West of London will not only be subjected to more pollution but asked to pay for it," he said. "The M25 road widening scheme is nothing to do with easing traffic congestion and everything to do with providing also included in the Greater BAA [the British Airports Authority] with a superhighway ed mayor and assembly for the access to Terminal Five. The fat cats of BAA should be asked to



Peter Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, at Peterlee, Co Durham, where Orange, the telecommunications company, is to build a call centre on a greenfield site, bringing in 500 jobs

'Jail is not a place to keep asylum seekers' deprived

ASYLUM SEEKERS and immigrants should not be held in jails unless they are accused of committing criminal offences, the Chief Inspector of Prisons

said yesterday. Sir David Ramsbotham said people seeking entry into the country should be held in special immigration detention centres if it was decided they had to be detained while a decision was made.

At the moment, 938 immigrants are being held in detention and just over half are kept in prison establishments, rather than special centres.

In a report written after an inspection of Haslar Holding Centre, Sir David said he had "serious concerns" about keeping detainees in prison conditions. Although Haslar, in Hampshire, is a holding centre rather than a prison, it is run by the Prison Service under

Sir David praised the cen-

<u>IMMIGRATION</u>

By Jo BUTLER

tre's staff, saying they were working with humanity and care, but warned it was "unacceptable" that rules intended to apply to convicted prisoners were being extended to detainees. Prolonged periods of detention were "very stressful and can have an adverse effect on the mental health of a de-

tainee", Sir David said. He added: "I do not believe that asylum seekers or immigration detainees should normally be held under Prison Rules unless they have committed a crime which makes

such detention appropriate." In recent proposals to shake up the immigration system, the Government said it would rather hold detainees in immigration centres and planned to raise the number of spaces

But it predicted that prisons

per cent of applicants who might be liable for detention are held at any one time.

ty and control".

People are held if they are awaiting deportation, have entered the country illegally or if it is believed there is a danger they will "disappear" from the immigration system. The Home Office minister

At the moment only about 1.5

Lord Williams of Mostyn said the detention of some immigrants was essential. "Detention is a necessary part of our immigration control system. However, we are committed to processing claims faster and pursuing alternatives."

The chief executive of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, Helen Edwards, said: "These places are wholly inappropriate for people in a distressed and vulnerable state."

areas get pay rise would still have to be used for reasons of "geography, securi-

3.05

ž.HΕ

CHELTENI

GPs in

<u>HEALTH</u> BY JACKIE BROWN

THOUSANDS OF GPs working in the most deprived parts of England are each to be given an average of £1,300 more a year for extra work they do, the Health minister Alan Milburn said

More than 19,000 family doctors will benefit from the £25m boost agreed by the Depart-ment of Health and the GPs' Committee of the British Medical Association.

The agreement will be presented to the Doctors' and Dentists' Pay Review Body (DDRB) for endorsement.

A total package worth £60m being allocated to doctors working in the poorest areas of the country, including some depressed rural communities, inner cities and former mining

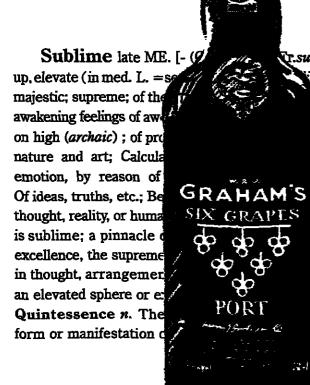
Dr John Chisholm, the chairman of the General Practitioners' Committee. said: "It is entirely right that GPs should be rewarded for the extra work they do."

Some money will also be directed at GPs who want to develop local schemes intended to help specific patient groups, such as the elderly in nursing homes and residential homes and drug abusers.

Cash will also be allocated for extra work involved in providing good-quality services to all patients, in an effort to improve quality across the NHS.

Mr Milburn said the Government was committed to tackling health inequalities. "It is right that family doctors in 🦫 the hardest-pressed areas get extra pay for these extra efforts," he said.

GRAHAM'S



T.sublimer or L. sublimare lift mis;] 1.adj. exalted, lofty; ighest or noblest nature; eration; raised up, lifted ng (literary); Of things in ep reverence, or lofty eauty, or grandeur 1700; the highest regions of ity 1634. 2. n. that which chievement, surpassing gree, the lofty or grand, r style; 3. a To raise to piritually) sublime 1609. burest or most perfect 570. Quintesse-ntial α

Promise to end secrecy

available in such centres.

WELSH ASSEMBLY BY PAUL WAUGE Political Correspondent

BRITAIN'S FIRST freedom of information regulations will be introduced next year if Rhodri Morgan wins the contest to lead the Welsh Assembly.

Yesterday the Cardiff West MP said that, if elected in May, he would make all assembly civil servants subject to a wideranging openness code. The non-statutory code would be in place two years before any Freedom of Information Act the Government is pledged to introduce in this Parliament.

In the first main policy announcement of his campaign



Morgan: Open government

for the Labour candidacy, Mr Morgan said: "Breaking down the culture of secrecy and bringing openness, inclusiveness and accountability to public life in Wales will be the

hallmark of my leadership of the Assembly. The establishment of the National Assembly ... is an opportunity which should not be missed by awaiting a Freedom of Information Act of Parliament." The code for Wales would bring into force the Govern-

ment's White Paper proposals on freedom of information before the passage of legislation through Westminster Constituency parties, Welsh

Labour MPs, Welsh Assembly candidates and trade unions will choose between Mr Morgan and Alun Michael, the Welsh Secretary, for the leadership; the result will be declared on 20

A game of more than two halves

ENGLISH CRICKETERS may not win much these days, but at last there is a table which they lead with impressive ease. According to The Independent's survey of drug use in British sport, no other sportsmen can match our cricketers' capacity

its vaciliation and don manuesto com medee a right in slation has failed in id Labour back

> In the survey, which received responses from more than 300 leading sportsmen and women, not a single cricketer admitted to being teetotal.

Seventeen per cent of cricketers said they drank more than 28 units a week (the maxirnum limit advised by government health experts) and 16 per cent said they drank between

A single unit is half a pint of beer or a glass of wine or a measure of spirits.

If cricket generally places most other sports, it also involves plenty of opportunities for the odd pint or three of beer, with evenings regularly spent in soulless hotels away from home

waiting for the rain to stop or for the chance to bat, they'll stick to tea and soft drinks.

Until recently it was rugby union players who had the reputation for being first in and last out at the after-match bar, but in these days of strict fitness regimes and controlled diets they have fallen well behind the nation's cricketers.

The survey did not produce a single rugby union player who admitted to drinking more than 28 units per week, while only 8 per cent of respondents said they drank between 21 and 28 units. In rugby league, although there were no teetotallers, no respondents said they drank more than 20 units

When it comes to smoking, less of a demand on fitness than jockeys are sport's leading sporting consumers. Twentyfive per cent of jockeys said they smoked between 11 and 20 cigarettes per day and 10 per cent admitted to 20 or more a day. As



England celebrating a series win against South Africa at Headingley, Leeds, earlier this year Lawrence Griffiths

forced to keep their weight down, that result was perhaps not surprising.

Very few other sportsmen and women admitted to smoking. Of footballers, 98 per cent were non-smokers and none said they smoked more than 10

enjoyed a quick smoke at halftime (as Bobby Charlton did during the 1966 World Cup final

Footballers, it seems, (perhaps influenced by the kind of Continental health-awareness that saw Chelsea's Italian play-- though in the long afternoons people who are constantly a day. The days when players er manager Gianluca Vialli give was not borne out by the results.

up smoking last season) have kicked the habit. Admissions of illegal recre-

ational drug use were also low, and among footballers especially, the image of young men with money in their pockets and temptation all around them

Twenty-two per cent said they had tried cannabis (about half of rugby players had done so) although none admitted to being a current user. Nine per cent of footballers had tried ecstasy and seven per cent

Drugs in sport, page 23

INDEPENDENT'S SURVEY All figures are percentages of respondents' replica How many cigarettes do you smoke?

A million shoppers swap UK for NYC

BRITISH CHRISTMAS shoppers By MATTHEW BRACE are flocking to New York, lured by cut-price goods, a strong pound, a drop in crime and the festive glitz of one of the world's most exhilarating cities.

The number of air travellers crossing the Atlantic to New York for the pre-Christmas rush has reached a record this \cdot have bought in Britain. season, with an estimated one million visitors making the 7,000-mile round trip from

year's total of 750,000, which in turn was an increase of 30 per New York Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB).

British visitors are doing all the usual tourist stuff, skating on the ice rink in Central Park. taking the lift to the top of the Impire State Building and jostling with office workers in Broadway delicatessens, but the main draw is the shops. With some popular Christ-

their UK prices and with return flights as low as £160 (before airport taxes), some visitors may be able to offset their travel costs by the savings they make on goods they would otherwise

most visitors are making fourday trips using scheduled in iow to mid The number is well up on last range hotels for between £35 and £75 per person per night. The savings continue with Guggenheim Museum halfway up Park Avenue will set them back about £8. One Subway 90p. A similar cab ride across London could cost between £15 and £20 and an Underground

cheap as £9 at the Canal Jeans Company on Broadway, compared to between £40 and £50

Even with the 8.25 per cent sales tax (not marked on price tags in stores) prices in the Big Apple York are still bargains.

Where once visitors from the UK might have been put off a Christmas shopping trip to New York by the notoriously rivals gates at JFK airport.

Thanks to a campaign of cent on 1996, according to the transportation. A substantial much healthier national econcab ride from Battery Park at omy, the city that once boasted the tip of Manhattan to the one of the world's worst crime journey anywhere in the city is year and 14 per cent lower

> However, the transatlantic Christmas bonanza will not last as, after Tuesday, flights Pairs of Levi jeans are as rise steeply to £500 or more.

mas gifts selling for about half

The New York CVB says

ticket £2.

zero tolerance on crime and a rates has cleaned up its act. Crime is reported to be 7 per cent down on the figure for last than in 1996.



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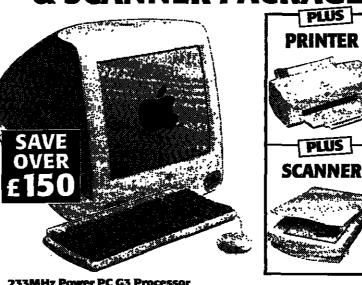
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The Interr am FIFA is back, bigger and better than ever. FIFA 99 war E is not often your chance is see the et TOMB RAIDER III merely suspecting with 11. or -2 -4, the 80 Lara Croft returns in

positive description (CW) One morning in **199**3 warm of track bond of the arm are post sint national contraction in reaction me that it the world next to the named and nutines created a pager maression of themes a pose But that was ! रामाञ्चलन्त्रं १० ११.० स्टॉस्ट one of the frances . Indexed ಕಾರ್ಥಿಯಿಂದ ದ

ENVIOLENCE WAS BUT or evident explanatu amere than to kill on esection West that's w was pured away in remused rough by his mages of language and sur unifer de produci gred and list away. . What cost connected man was stated of rage. paryonal and one whole: a one " the potenta effects of the banned :

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Dave, a heroin and temazepam user, who did not think he would see Christmas and was unsure if he wanted to, contemplates his future at Glasgow Drugs Crisis Centre

city unable to kick the habit

SOCIAL WORKERS and doctors By STEPHEN GOODWIN in Glasgow had been cautious about making too much of the fall in drug deaths in recent years. The human wreckage was still filing through their waiting rooms, desperate for methadone, for dressings on needle abscesses or for a roof

The death toll dropped from 75 in 1995 to 30 last year - but not too many professionals were shouting about Glasgow kicking the habit. The number of people injecting has remained stubbornly at around 9,000 for most of the decade. This year, with festive binges still to come. 63 drug-related knife-point for a hit of heroin

7

Scotland Correspondent

year's figure, have been recorded already.

A look at a graph of drug deaths over the past four years shows that the low point, from the tail of 1996 to the middle of 1997, coincides with the disappearance from the market of temazepam "jellies", which are a favourite component of the Glasgow drug cocktail.

Dave, a sunken-cheeked 32vear-old trying to put together some sort of life through the Glasgow Drugs Crisis Centre. was ready to rob people at

there were times when I took more desperate measures. things I'm ashamed of ... When I'm on the streets and I'm using, it's like an animal instinct that comes through."

In and out of prison or other institutions for most of his life, Dave smoked cannabis when he was 12, dropped acid (LSD) and was injecting heroin before he left school, "I just took it to kick drugs have failed, alblock out reality," he said, echoing a Glasgow refrain. Users are frequently homeless, cut off prospect of finding a job, let and I had rent arrears of

rupted his life, family members would pass him on the street.

Dave injected heroin and temazepam in his groin. Temazepam is a really, realpopular combination with heroin," he said. But he has suffered blood clots, abscesses, pneumonia and chest

Three previous attempts to though he did go clean for nine months until choosing to inject again last September. "I by their families and with little was frightened. feeling guilt alone holding on to it. Dave was 21,000. I was at the end." When born in Dennistoun, then a he entered the centre, three that goes down as the cause of deaths, double the previous and a few jellies. "Shoplifting traditional working-class part weeks ago, he did not think he death." Dr Poole explained.

was easiest and quickest. But of the city. But as drugs cor-would live to Christmas and was not sure he wanted to.

Andrew Horne, the manager of the centre, which sees 3.600 drug users a year, is wary of the emphasis placed by Strathclyde Police on a purer form of heroin as the likely cause of the upsurge in deaths. He and Norman Poole, a medical officer at the centre, blame temazepam, which, when added to the cocktail, makes the user "act like a drunk after

two bottles of vodka". "If a heroin user injects temazenam then blacks out and chokes on his vomit, he will test positive for heroin and

Temazepam took hold in of a clear liquid in a capsule -Glasgow in the early 1990s, a clear liquid tranquilliser in what looks like a cod-liver oil capsule. To try to foil the users. it was changed to a jelly, but addicts simply heated it to draw the liquefied drug into the syringe. However, it quickly

In 1995, temazepam came under tight control and is now only manufactured and prescribed in Britain in tablet form. Its use in Glasgow fell and so did the deaths. But by

the end of last year "jellies"

were back on the streets - once

again in the user-friendly form

solidified in the user's vein.

with horrendous conse-

and the deaths graph turned

Of the 10 latest cases on Mr Horne's desk, seven were using temazepam. One man was injecting up to 20 capsules a day. The experts believe the capsules, costing £1.50 to 🖭 each on the street, are imported, possibly from Holland or eastern Europe.

Dr Laurence Gruer, addictions co-ordinator for the Greater Glasgow Health Board, has one solace: "Things could be far worse". And alcohol is still a bigger problem. For every drug-related hospital admission in the city, five are related to drink.

Police : look at

Crime Correspondent

SCOTLAND YARD is to exa the use of guns firing bags" and "bean bags" non-lethal way of disarr offenders.

The weapons, which used in the United State knock down potentially vic people without causing ser harm, are being considere the Metropolitan Police cause of a rise in the nun of lmife attacks on officer:

A committee has i formed to examine alterna weapons and tactics. The tiative was prompted by death last year of PC Mackay, who was stabbed ing to arrest a mentally

turbed man in breach of l Among two ideas to be amined are guns that fire ei a soft polyurethane j round or a special heavy bean bag filled with metal : The projectiles, which are sidered safer versions of rul bullets, have a range of up t metres and the capabilit knock down a person down Jelly rounds can be i from a special six-shot se

automatic rifle, while the b bag rounds can be fired from ordinary shotgun.

The use of non-let weapons has grown in the U ed States after a public ou against the number of pe being shot and the rise in (litigation against the police

Inspector Gary Crum; the firearms policy unit at S land Yard said: "Our recomes partly because of a in the number of armed sponse vehicles being sent to cidents involving knives. At moment, there are two tremes: officers with bar and CS spray at one end armed officers at the offi there is a gap between the

Any new non-lethal weap will first need to be approve the Home Office and will quire vigorous testing.

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Not only the

he lonely

S DIARY, George Morris ds in neat capital letters

inutiae of daily life: the er, the telephone calls ceived, what he ate for

The letter "I", with a cir-

round it, appears fre-

ly in the closely written

"L" stand for loneliness.

orge would hate you to

orry for him. "Tm a very

person." he savs several

talking about his hobbies.

ighbours, his wonderful

hildren. But life is not the

since he lost Ada, his wife ears. "Nothing can fill the

n when you've been mar-

neliness is a wretched

It saps the energy and

s at the soul. It afflicts all

coups, but above all older

e. isolated by widowhood.

lity and a dwindling cir-

e Concern, one of three

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d, runs day-centres, be-

hat long," he says.

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four walls of his terraced house

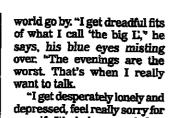
travel to the remain to introugate the a the four Western h Asian Maddid cellered that bri could belo ut in

Rela

only fadin

Annean Bob Wells " and bright House's

host



myself. It's being married to someone for so long, I suppose, and being so close." George is clearly delighted

to have visitors. Initially perturbed because we are late, he ushers us into "the snug", a the estimated one million older people in Britain who suffer cosy, warm room adjoining the kitchen. There is a tray laid for George is 87 and, since his afternoon tea, with shortbread second stroke, confined to the is already filled.

He takes a pinch of tobacco in Garston, Liverpool. His from a pouch and rolls it bedaughter, Linda, a school librarian, pops in a few times a tween bony, liver-blotched finweek. Julie, his home help, visgers. The habit is a relic of his its every Friday, and so does seafaring days. He spent 50 years at sea, first with the Mer-Sylvia, a volunteer with Age chant Navy, then with the But there are days when he Mersey Dock and Harbour sees no one, and sometimes he Board, and there were long hours to wile away with cigafeels so bereft of company that he opens the front door and just rettes and convivial conversation. He brims with stories



George Morris at his home in Liverpool and during his seafaring days. Nothing can fill the vacuum' left by the death of his wife Ada (left) John Voos

about voyages to faraway lands, a guided tour of his memories about Liverpool's proud mar- and mementoes, to show us itime past, about the magic of the fruits of a creative talent that he discovered when he re-

dow is a scrapbook dedicated to his grandfather, a sailor in whose footsteps he followed; photographs, certificates of discharge and letters are meticulously filed. An oil painting of one of the old Liverpool docks is propped up against the fire-

place. There are dozens of watercolours of maritime scenes, painted in his studio at the back of the house. This is the tragedy of George nd many others. Despite physcal frailty, he has lost none of his zest for life. He is sociable, talkative, full of ideas, buzzing with interests. What he lacks, it is painfully plain, is a companion. Several times he pauses mid-conversation to nquire anxiously whether he s boring us. On top of a cabinet, next to his war medals and skipper's cap, is a faded black and white photograph of a young woman with blonde curls, smiling shyly at the camera. "That's Ada. The picture was taken after we got

engaged. I carried it with me right through the war." They met in a cinema queue in Garston. "It was love at first sight. We got married in 1944, while I was home on leave. I had to go back to sea, but she was

my girl for life. "It was a happy marriage, being with another woman. I'd better not talk about it too much, or I'll start weeping. She died four years ago last week. I was devastated; I didn't

want to go on." In the bedroom that they shared. Ada's clothes are still in the chest of drawers, lovingly folded. "It's not a shrine; I just

don't see the point of throwing away all her beautiful things," to pay expenses for a maximum of 75 volunteers to visit and beenamei bracelet from the dressing table. "I brought her this back from Lishon during

The last of George's seafaring friends died last month. He wishes that Sylvia. the woman from Age Concern, could visit more often, but she

erpool social services has funds

of 75 volunteers to visit and behe says. He picks up a gold and friend up to 500 housebound residents

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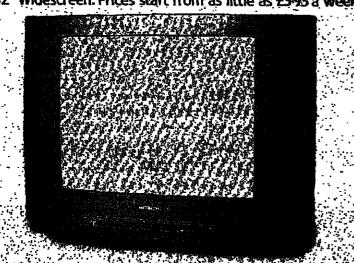
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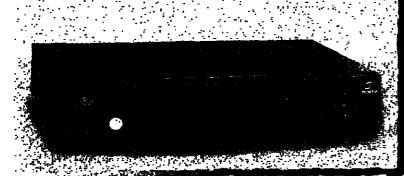
As we leave, George jokes that he would like to be reincarnated as a Muslim, to be able to have three wives. "That way I'd never be lonely," he says. A few minutes later, about drive off, we look back over our shoulders. has five other people to see. Liv-George is still standing in the doorway, waving.

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British agents invited to Chechnya

THE PRESIDENT of Chechnya By PHIL REEVES yesterday invited British intelligence officers or police to AND ANDREW BUNCOMBE travel to the republic and help to investigate the murders of

the four Western hostages. Aslan Maskhadov said he believed that British officers could help in tracing the gang who abducted and executed telecommunications

His invitation came as au-

thorities in the capital, Grozny, claimed they had obtained a full confession from one of the

"The organiser of the kid-New Zealander, Abdi Abilayev, has confessed fully and is giving evidence about the others

state television reported. The commercial channel, NTV, carried a similar report.

The invitation from President Maskhadov is, in effect, an admission of his own total inability to enforce security in Chechnya, which is in a state napping of three Britons and a of lawlessness after its 21month separatist war with Russia.

The Foreign Office said it

involved in the crime," Russian was not aware of any formal request to Britain from Chechnya. "Any invitation will be considered in due course and responded to in the normal way," a spokesman said.

British investigators are highly unlikely to take up such an offer. As an indication of how dangerous Chechnya is, the country's senior prosecutor. Mansur Tagirov - the man leading efforts to trace the kid-

ed to have been taken hostage. Mr Tagirov vanished on Thursday evening as he returned to Grozny, after attending a

later reappeared unharmed. Details of what led to the murders of Darren Hickey, Rudolf Petschi, Peter Kennedy and Stanley Shaw, whose severed heads were discovered on

nappers - was himself report- Grozny earlier this week, field commander and an isremained scarce yesterday.

A British embassy spokesman said that Britain had obtained promises of assistance funeral at a nearby village. He from Russian and Chechen officials in locating the bodies, and did not plan to repatriate the heads until the rest of the remains were found.

It is understood that the kidnappers were led by Arbi a roadside 40 miles from Barayev, a former Chechen

lamic radical. He is believed to have been responsible for the kidnapping of Jon James and Camilla Carr, who were released in September, two weeks before the four engineers were kidnapped. The two aid workers had been held hostage for 14 months.

Martan, a town south of Grozny. telephone conversations.

are trying to obtain a copy of a videotane believed to contain a "conjession" in which one of the men says he and the others were spying for British intelligence. On the video. Mr Kennedy, apparently filmed under duress, says the men had installed a satellite aerial so that Mr Barayev is reported to foreign intelligence agencies have strongholds around Urus- could eavesdrop on all Chechen

Relatives of hostages can only cling to fading hopes

FROM CLIPPINGS already By PETER POPHAM turning yellow, their faces stare out at us with the special intensity of those who are mortally afraid: Keith Mangan, the Middlesbrough electrician, straight as a ramrod, his wiry hair brushed up and back; Paul Wells, the photography student, hungry cheekbones, eyes wide and deep-set; the German Dirk Hasert, with cropped hair and stubbly beard; the American Don Hutchings, inseparable from his woolly hat, his eyes lost in the distance.

These are the hostages of Kashmir. Unlike those of Chechnya, whose remains were found this week, nothing has been seen or heard of these four men for three years. We believe they are dead but there is no certainty about it.

It is hard to imagine anything worse than what the relatives of the British hostages murdered in Chechnya have gone through. But if they were to compare their own ghastly ful Thames valley," as Sir Francertainty with the tormenting doubts of the families of the Kashmir hostages, they might conclude that their own lot was the less terrible. The page, after all, can be turned. A new start can be made.

Julie Mangan, Bob Welis, Jane Schelly and Birgit Hasert,

in Delhi

on the other hand, remain in dreadful suspense, which shows no sign of ending. Last month, for the the first time, a senior Indian official said the Kashmir hostages so far unaccounted for are probably dead. Yet no bodies have been found.

The various explanations of how and why they died have failed to produce any proof. The mysterious Kashmiri separatist group, Al Faran, which supposedly captured them, has melted away, leaving no trace. Two substantial rewards have been offered for useful information (and this is an impoverished region); no one has come forward.

In July 1995, Keith, Paul and Don and a second American called John Childes set off from the houseboat where they were staying in the beautiful valley of Kashmir - "the smiling, peacecis Younghusband put it, "with a girdle of snowy mountains" to trek to a valley called Pahalgam. Keith had sold his business to take a year off, travelling with Julie, his wife: 23-year-old Paul was travelling with his girlfriend.

Kashmir was still gripped by



the insurgency of Islamic separatists, as it had been for vears. But other parties of foreigners had recently passed this way without trouble.

But on 4 July the four men were seized and abducted from their camp. A few days later, Mr Childes managed to escape: feigning stomach trouble. he disappeared behind some bushes. Subsequently Dirk story that surfaced in the Indi- of the general whereabouts of

Hasert and a Norwegian, Christian Ostroe, were taken prisoner. Three weeks later. Mr Ostroe was decapitated. His is the only body found.

In the early months of their captivity, there were sporadic sightings of the hostages, but the last reliable report was on same month, according to a went on to tell his interrogators

an papers in mid-1996, that an Islamic guerrilla chief called Nazir Mohammed ordered the murder of the remaining hostages. He did so, he is alleged to have confessed after his capture, because his men had been fired on by Indian soldiers and the hostages were 8 December 1995. It was in the hampering their getaway. He rades in grief have, meanwhile,

the hostages' bodies. But no remains were found.

In September 1997, acting on information, police exhumed a body said to be that of one of the hostages. Weeks later, forensic scientists made a positive denial of the reports.

Julie Managan and her comcontinued to tramp around Delhi, Islamabad and Srina-

gar in search of clues; officials of the British High Commission time back ... At the same time. and other national missions we have no conclusive eviraise the matter when they dence to prove they are dead." can with the Kashmiri authorities. But the trail is now cold. No new evidence of any sort has

surfaced this year. On 27 No-

vember E N Rammohan, the

director-general of India's Bor-

The only certainty lies in the photographs of the Kashmir hostages, taken in the early days of their captivity. They have nothing to tell us about the hostages' fate but, as evidence der Security Force, told jour- of their mental torment, they nalists in Delhi: "I think [the are haunting,

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PREDICTABLY, THE Within the French and the tional Front has turned VF members loyal to Marie Le Pen stormed a office near Marselles in supporters of his rival; Megret fore down posts removed cash and docum Megret sympathisers: threatening phone calls up NF speciality - tiay w

In retaintion, Mr Men coffins in the post. second power in the La the past lecade, yester leased a engthy documer cusing Mr Le Pen of ne and misusing party fun every member knew sine pened to the 100 female they hard over often at heart-broken," it said. It on to accuse Mr Le Pen of party funds to support a lifestyle for his family at sociates, while imposing bouts on local parties.

Mr Megret was strape his job as delegate gene the party on Wednesday exergency conference to members to choose - in

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Israelis kill two on West Bank

ISRAELI SOLDIERS shot dead two Palestinians and wounded 50 others yesterday, deepening the crisis in relations between Israel and the Palestinians on the eve of President Bill Clinton's visit to Israel and to the autonomous Palestinian enclaves of Gaza and Bethlehem.

Witnesses said Mohammed Amin Suleiman and Kamal Mohammed Adwan, both 18. were hit in the head when Israeli troops fired live rounds during a demonstration in the West Bank town of Qalqilya.

Palestinian anger at Israel's 2.400 Palestinian prisoners it holds has led to widespread rioting on the West Bank this week, with two Palestinians killed already and 150 injured. The rioting was expected to die down as Mr Clinton's visit neared, but yesterday's deaths

may lead to more violence. In a further setback for Dennis Ross. the US envoy who is trying to defuse the crisis, Is-

BY PATRICK COCKBURN in Jerusalem

rael yesterday rejected a compromise whereby the US, with Israel and the Palestinians, would form a committee to discuss which Palestinian prisoners are to be released. Danny Naveh, the Israeli cabinet secretary, said only Israel may decide who is to be freed. "This is not a matter for negotiations," he said. He denied such a compromise was ever for-

mally presented by the US. Israel says it will not carry failure to release more of the out a planned withdrawal from part of the West Bank next week unless the Palestinian National Council holds a vote nullifying anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian charter. Mr Clinton is to attend the meeting of the PNC in Gaza on Monday.

Revocation of objectionable clauses in the charter, first drawn up in 1964, is at the centre of Mr Netanyahu's demands - although the Palestinians

claim the anti-Israel sections were dropped two years ago with the agreement of the US and the former left-wing Israeli

Azmi Shuaibi, a member of the PNC, said that although he voted in favour of changing the charter in 1996, he would vote against now. "It is not that I don't want to change it but I am against Netanyahu ordering us to do so," he said. At the same time Mr

Shuaibi, who is also a Palestinian legislator, says he understands the necessity for the Palestinians to seek a better relationship with the US. He said: -Palestinians understand the world has changed. America is the world's only great power."

The growing intimacy between the US and the Palestinians is worrying the Israeli government. David Bar-Ilian, Mr Netanyahu's head of communications, said: "We hope the presidential visit is not perverted into an implicit Ameri-

can recognition of the Palestinian attempt to violate the Oslo accords by unilaterally declaring a state."

The stridency of Mr Netanyahu's rhetoric against the Palestinian leadership is partly an attempt to reassure the Israeli hard right that he has not sold it out by signing the USbrokered Wye Agreement, under which Israel will ultimately give up 40 per cent of the West Bank. He needs to make the revocation of the Palestinian charter appear a

hard-won victory. Mr Netanyahu faces a vote of confidence in the Knesset in 10 days. He is in danger of being squeezed by the Labourled opposition, voting against him because he has not made peace with the Palestinians, and the hard right, voting against him because it fears he is about to do so. But Mr Netanyahu has shown great skill in the past in holding together

French NF heads for violent split

PREDICTABLY, THE civil war BY JOHN LICHFIELD within the French far-right National Front has turned dirty.

NF members loyal to Jean-Marie Le Pen stormed a party office near Marseilles held by supporters of his rival, Bruno Megret, tore down posters and removed cash and documents. Megret sympathisers across the country have received threatening phone calls and - an NF speciality - tiny wooden coffins in the post. In retaliation, Mr Mégret, the

second power in the Front for the past decade, yesterday released a engthy document accusing Mr Le Pen of nepotism and missising party funds. "If every member knew what happened to the 260 francs (£30) they hand over, often at great personal cost, they would be heart-broken," it said. It went on to accese Mr Le Pen of using party funds to support a lavish lifestyle for his family and associates, while imposing budget

cuts on local parties. Mr Mégret was stripped of the party on Wednesday after supporting a campaign for an Ziergency conference to allow members to choose - in effect ficial" wing of the party.

 between him and Mr Le Pen Yesterday, the NF President went further and suspended Mr Mégret and four of his lieu-

tenants from the party.
At a press conference heavy with bombast and paranois (even by Mr Le Pen's standards) he said Mr Mégret and his supporters were "a handful of fevered, ambitious men, backed by external forces, who wish to destroy our great resistance movement.

"France is in danger," he said, "in very great danger. And it is precisely in these grave times that ... a cell backed by very powerful capitalists close to the Elysee Palace have been conducting subversive manoeu vres within our party...'

Mr Mégret denounced his suspension. His supporters said they already had 7,000 of the 12,000 signatures they need (20 per cent of NF membership) to call an emergency conferhis job as delegate general of ence. It seems certain he will be proclaimed leader of the "democratic" NF, while Mr Le Pen continues to lead the "of-



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Perjury, not sex, is issue, says Hyde

the US House of Representatives was set yesterday to approve at least one article of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, paving the way for a vote by the full House next week and a possible trial

The mood of the 37-member committee, whose Republican majority reflects the balance of power in the House, was grave, as members went from the often-portentous rhetoric of their opening statements to quibbling over the small print of the four draft articles of impeachment. The articles, drawn up this week, allege perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power by the President in the Monica Lewinsky affair and call for his removal from office.

The likelihood that at least one perjury count will be forwarded to the full House crystallised concern in the Clinton camp that lengthy proceedings could affect the smooth functioning of the Administration and impair US diplomacy.

A dip in US share values on Thursday, which continued yesterday, was partly attributed to the political uncertainty.

THE JUDICIARY Committee of By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

The committee's debate

reached its climax as President Clinton prepared to leave for Israel on the first leg of a threeday visit that also takes him to Palestinian territory.

But the controversy in Washington centred less on the merits of his Middle Eastern trip than whether he was wise to leave the country at all at a time when his presidency was under such pressure. A number of leading Democrats pressed him to address the nation "sooner rather than later", but the White House said there were no plans for him to do so, and he passed up the opportunity to comment, at a public appearance yesterday morning.

The last of the opening statements in the House committee were heard yesterday morning. with the Republican chairman. Henry Hyde, rounding them off with his own assessment. "Perjury is not sex," he said, and stressed that the articles of impeachment did not mention

sexual misconduct. said, "is a public action and de- can do it to you."

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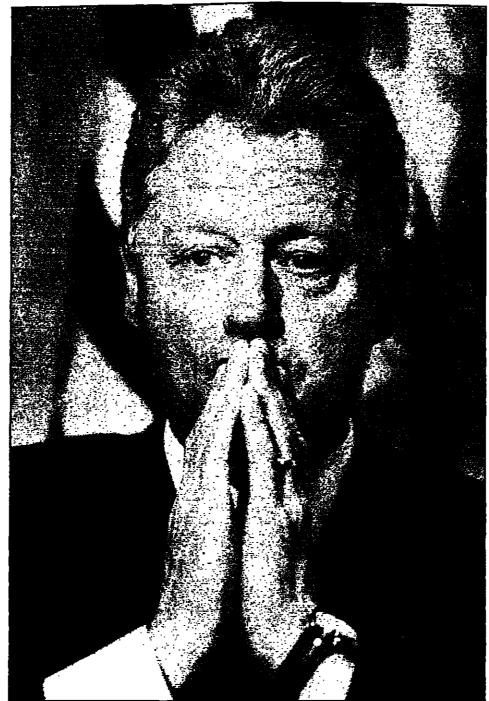
serves public sanction." Mr Clinton, he said, had not indulged in "some garden variety perjury, but repeated and mul-

The decision the committee took, he said, would "answer questions about us: who are we, and what do we stand for?"

Mary Bono, the widow of Sonny Bono, who was elected to her late husband's House seat, said that Mr Clinton had "abused his power as chief executive to protect himself" and warned that if he got away with it, "any person who challenges a person in authority is going to be subject to all sorts

Another Republican, Lindsey Graham, voiced the sentiments of many when he said gravely of his impeachment vote: "I doubt whether I'll do anything as important for my nation as this." But Mr Clinton had the sup-

nort of one of the committee's more forceful orators. Robert Wexler, who said: "This élitist group will vote to remove the President. What's it about? Sex. Wake up, America. If they Lying in court. Mr Hyde can do it to the President, they



Bill Clinton awaits the Judiciary Committee vote before going to Israel

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14 die as Thai plane crashes during storm

By Sarah Strickland in Bangkok

SURVIVORS WERE last night being hauled from a Thai Airways flight which crashed and caught fire in southern Thailand. The A310, carrying 132 people, crashed in a storm three miles from Surat Thani, a stop-off point for the resort island of Ko Samui, on the east

Towards midnight about 14 people were confirmed dead and 44 survivors had been pulled from the wreckage. Heavy rain and the uneven. muddy terrain hampered attempts by the police and army and volunteers who went to the scene and helped people into their own vehicles.

The airline released a manifest that indicated most of the passengers were Thais, though there were also Western and Japanese names on the list.

The manifest did not list the nationalities of the passengers, who would not have been required to show passports when checking in.

Survivors were shown on television walking shakily, with facial injuries and torn clothes. One couple was seen being helped into a pick-up van in the pouring rain. The man was bleeding heavily from the head, while his partner was fighting

The minister in charge of



transport, Suthep Thuaksuban. said his sister Siriwan was on the flight. He had also been due on it but cancelled to attend a

wedding.
Ruangsak Loychusak, a Thai pop star who was due to play in Surat Thani last night, gave a V-sign to the cameras as he was helped through a kneedeep pool of water. He promised to give a concert in aid of the victims.

Early reports said the aircraft circled the airport several times and that an engine exploded before it crashed in a rubber plantation. Most of the fire seemed to be concentrated towards the rear of the aircraft. It crashed at 7.10pm local time, 15 minutes after it was scheduled to land.

The last big crash involving a Thai Airways aircraft was six years ago in Nepal, when 133 people were killed Khans in row over

antiques

By Anwar Iqbal

in Islamabad

AUTHORITIES IN Pakistan are threatening to take action against Jemima Khan, vife of the country's cricketing legend Imran Khan, over the aleged smuggling of antique tiles.

A customs official in Lahore claimed the 399 ancient tiles were found hidden in a box being sent by Mrs Khan o her mother in London. He said the artefacts were more than 300 years old and were removed period. "We are seeking experts' opinion. If the tiles prove to be as old as we think they are, we will register a case under

the antiques act," he said. Imran Khan said the government was trying to defame him. He said tiles were only 50 years old and were bought by his wife in a shop in Islamabad.

IN BRIEF

Russia honours Solzhenitsyn

RUSSIANS PAID tribute to the writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn on his 80th birthday yesterday and said he helped hasten the demise of the Soviet regime. President Boris Yeltsin and the State Duma congratulated the Nobel Prize winner, and awarded him the Order of the Apostle St Andrew for "outstanding services to the Fatherland".

Animał rights group poisons cake

TWO BRANDS of a traditional Italian Christmas cake known as "panettone" were being withdrawn from stores after the Animal Liberation Front injected them with rat poison. The protest was aimed against distributor Nestle's use of genetic engineering to develop its products.

ANC to promote black players

SOUTH AFRICA'S ruling African National Congress announced plans to legislate to promote more black players into some of the country's white-dominated national teams. A new sports commission would have the power to transform all sports, especially rugby and cricket.

US envoy ends shuttle diplomacy

THE US envoy, Christopher Hill. is breaking off his mediation mission in Kosovo as his shuttle diplomacy. between ethnic Albanians and Serbs hit a dead end after months of travelling between Belgrade and Pristina.

Kazakhstan fights exodus

KAZAKHSTAN urged its dwindling population to stay put and ignore the temptation to seek a better life outside the Central Asian state. Around 2 million of the former Soviet republic's 16 million people have left since 1990.

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Thai Saturday 12 December 1998 Thai Shes Saddam's Shes orm men use sanctions to secure their grip

FROM THE top of the 11th- BY RICHARD DOWNES century spiral minaret of Samarra, the capital of Iraq in ancient times, the 50 children were easily visible and audible. On seeing a group of Westerners, they were urged into a by their teachers. "We've been told foreigners are going to kill us. They'll bomb us from the air or starve us into submission. So we have to fight them," said one _vf the teachers.

 Within minutes the attendant appeared, asking for the foreigners' names and writing newed the oil-for-food prodown the car registration number Both teacher and attendant wore the tell-tale insignia of the ruling Baath Socialist Party.

In this Saddam City suburb every house and head of household is watched by party technocrats, often retired civil servants earning a little extra by informing on their neighbours. Poverty and unemployment have reached epidemic proportions and every institution is under strain. Crumbling schools report absenteeism rates of 30 per cent. Petty crime is ver-present. If there is to be evolt against the ruling

regime, it could well start here. But any thought of dissent alarms Mahmood, a street vendor who has fallen on hard times, like most of his neighbours. "I have to pledge loyalty to the party. Any sign of disobedience and my monthly card would be taken away."

The card he speaks of entitles him to a ration of 9kg of rice, 2.5kg of flour and cooking oil, without which he could not survive. He has to collect the Yemen or even in the West, but follow a specific day or lose his my family is here and they

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TO THE WEEKEND REVIEW PAGE 7

A solitary Santa Claus

hovering like a ghost of

department stores past

THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

The key to the meaning of life?

in Baghdad

chopped into a thousand pieces and thrown into the river," he said, drawing his finger across his throat. The rations were inchorus of "Down, down USA!" troduced to mitigate the worst effects of sanctions, which have been in place for eight years. Outside the north, where the United Nations administers rationing, the long arm of the government reaches into the home of every citizen.

The government has regramme, whereby Iraqi oil is sold and the money used by UN agencies, in co-operation with Baghdad, to supply the basic ration. Since 1996 the regime has rebuilt its structure and reinforced its grip on vital institutions, say envoys in Baghdad.

Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan told the new UN humanitarian co-ordinator, Hans van Sponeck, that the government was keen to expand on the programme's success. "Both parties [UN and government] need to co-operate better, since the deal forms the basic pillar of this government's success," the Babil daily paper quoted Mr Ramadan as saying.

Despite all the noise created by the government over sanctions, the ruling élite has found the isolation caused by the embargo useful in keeping an eye on dissidents and intellectuals. Through the rationing system, people with "ideas" can be closely monitored.

"I could leave and get a job in a university in Egypt or ration. He resents the power of would suffer," said Barzan, an a revolution, that guy would be government hand-out. "There





salary before the Gulf War was worth more than \$5,000 a month. Now it barely covers the cost of transport. "I'm exhausted, but I must carry on for

the sake of my family." Pointing to the house of the Baath organiser in his street, he said: "He knows everything about me. He knows what time I come home and what my family eat."

It is difficult for such an ed-cials) allow these journals in?" ucated man to accept the atsaid Barzan, referring to the ban on dealings of any sort with tentions of a semi-literate party hack and he can take little Iraqi institutions. Under the comfort in academic pursuits embargo, exporting even The when times are so hard "I Beano to Iraq is illegal. haven't seen an up-to-date aca-

Regulations reinforce the dependency and the strangle-

household.

At the crumbling 28th of April Shopping Centre, named after the revolution that brought President Saddam Hussein's party to power, civil

home base of the head of flour to the local baker. He shares the profit with me. It is a good arrangement," said a civil servant and Baath member who gave his name as Nabeel. "I have used the money to buy the car," he said, pointing to a jalopy, which provides yet more supplementary in-

party members, Nabeel regularly has to fill out a political education diary on everyone he knows. It is a wide circle of colleagues at work, customers for his taxi service and clients for his rations. Sanctions have created the perfect opportunity for him both to prosper and to bolster the regime. "Some people complain about the hard life,"

demic journal for almost 10 servants collect extra rations. years - just the rubbish prohold of the regime. Moving They are rewarded with 10kg of duced by the Information Minaround the country is no longer come. "I take all civil servants rice, flour, soap and detergent. istry. You can't build a Scud possible with the government Outside, guards try vainly to in my area to work ... We go missile with a literary journal. controlling the food supply: ra- prevent workers selling their home in the evening and they Why don't IUN sanctions offi- tions are dispensed only at the extra rations. "I sell my rice and pay me every month." Like all The best things this Christmas come

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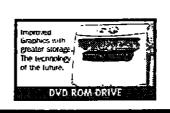
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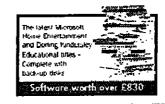
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PC Plus

17

Kama Sutra served with a lot of sauce

WEEK IN THE LIFE

JIGGS KALRA, APHRODISIAC GURU

JIGGS KALRA loves food - especially love food. After 10 appetites whethed. We think of ples sit clustered knee-to-knee years of research into the classical aphrodisiacs of the north arousal through anticipation," Indian city of Old Lucknow, the turbanned epicure has set up an experimental food festival in a Delhi hotel restaurant at the height of party season. Friday is hectic. There are 11th-hour consultations about long climax. What you eat can

garnishes with Hakim Safdar Nawab, whose family has been producing Islamic love potions for eight generations. Would a pinch of fired pearl powder be just as effective after a squeeze

"Fresh squeezed producing in the squeezed producing Islamic love potions for eight generations."

"Fresh squeezed producing is the ideal begins in the ideal b of lime?

Finding enough "shilajit", the fluid ore that eventually hardens into rock in the Himalayas and is a vital ingredient for "steel-hard" men, was a challenge. A light touch is essential. Hindu healers called vaidyas advise Mr Kalra to include plenty of shellfish, aphrodisiacs as revealed in Hindu sacred hymns.

At noon on Saturday, Mr Kalra opens the doors to diners daring to try his refined but

these meals as foreplay. It's says 50-year-old Mr Kalra. "Their appeal is olfactory, voyeuristic or simply sensuous - say the feel of oyster mushrooms against soft banana. But some ingredients can procounter a lack of semen, or a of "wheat germinated under lack of lubrication," he adds. the night sky".

"Fresh squeezed pomegranate Mr Kalra, who pens all "Fresh squeezed pomegranate

runs a front-page story about the sophisticated fare boosts bookings for the restaurant in spite of muddling up the sperm whale (the source for the fragrant stimulant ambergris) with whale sperm.

Other additives that are ground up to spark ardour from the larder include stone flowers (a soporific), hibiscus (a stimulant), charaila (a lubricant) and fired mica

(a rejuvenator). The following day, word is

around the tables, pondering whether to order "a pastry quiver full of Cupid's arrows: asparagus tips tossed in a seductive spices", or "boned kid simmered in musky mushqdanna gravy and gilded with gold leaf". Sweethearts choose for dessert an exotic confection

juice is the ideal beverage for these coy menu entries, is astonished when he has to turn A Sunday newspaper that away 40 diners on Tuesday

Happily, the raised platform pushed against the restaurant wall turns out not to be a bed, but a low stage where musicians play pulsing background

Some middle-aged men dine with youthful Asian babes, but there is a profusion of businessmen eating alone, presumably before seeking some night life.

"Potency enhancement is not immediate." Mr Kalra advises them. Just as well, for



couples overcome with sudden desire would be stymied because all the hotel rooms are fully booked.

droves, sometimes with new dinner, they just keep coming," Mr Kalra observes.

Eschewing his own exotic menus to munch on plain fruit and sandwiches in a corner, Mr Kalra brainstorms about pos-

feel the pulses of each customer and tell them exactly what they should eat. "Like an By Thursday, repeat cus-tomers are coming back in sure that Americans would pay \$1,000 a plate for such a dining partners. "Lunch or service. Most are very healthconscious and won't hesitate to

> While Mr Kalra surveys his diners all week, dozens of professional foodies come courting at his table. Idly, I tain drinks complement spicy

> sible improvements. He can wondered how a sub-continental food scholar flogging seafood in Delhi could succeed with a name that sounds so similar in local language to "cholera". Raising a quizzical brow, Mr Kaira corrects my pronunciation and goes on to dispense professional tips. For example, the guru once counselled a Londoner who was about to launch a chain of Indian restaurants that only cer-

Coke out of his own briefcase to wash down the erotic entrees. One irate luncher storms over to demand why his favourite butter chicken is off the menu and has been replaced with "over-perfumed baby food".

Delhi's most eligible bachelor is discreet about any postprandial experiences he has

meals. Meanwhile, a Coca- though he hinted that the menus Cola executive fetches a Diet might be a trifle over-hyped. One of his sultry dinner partners complains after consuming her five-course sampler of racy recipes. "I really don't feel sexy at all," she groans. "I'm so full I probably won't even be able to turn over." Unflustered, Guru Jiggs suggests consulting the Kama

Sutra while he fine-tunes the

aphrodisacs.

JAN MCGIRK

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Chinese thank Murdoch for 'objectivity'

RUPERT MURDOCH, the media By TERESA POOLE magnate who five years ago an- in Peking gered Peking by saying satellite television posed an "unambiguous threat to totalitarian ively" to the world. Mr Murdoch's attempts to

win back favour have now secured the ultimate stamp of approval, a meeting in Peking with Mr Jiang. The official Chinese account of Thursday's encounter, which was reported prominently yesterday on the front page of the People's Daily, said Mr Murdoch had "expressed his admiration for China's tremendous achievements in every respect over the past two decades", including in the media and cultural fields. The News Corporation chairman told Mr Jiang "that he was willing further to enhance friendly co-operation to present the world with a better understanding of China". Peking routinely attacks Western media reporting of China as unbal-

Since his 1993 gaffe about totalitarian regimes, Mr Mur-

doch has done all he can to claw back political acceptability in regimes everywhere", has been personally thanked by Presi-BBC World Service from his 2 dent Jiang Zemin for his efforts Star TV satellite channels or "in presenting China objectmost recently, ordering his publishing subsidiary, Harper-Collins, to drop a book by Chris Patten, the last governor of Hong Kong, who is loathed by

"News Corporation is optimistic about the scope for cooperation with Chinese media industry partners," Mr Mur doch said after his meetig with Mr Jiang.

To coincide with the vis News Corporation has been approved to open a represent tive office in Peking.

Warm relations with the Chi nese leadership may have a limited short-term impact, how ever, in opening up China for Mr. Murdoch and his rivals. The media remains one of the most restricted sectors for foreign investment controlled by the state. In the current climate of renewed political repression, the propaganda chiefs are not a leastion planning any relaxation

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Morton in **Ana**



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Ohmeda **chief**

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

BCCI liquidators win new appeal

LIQUIDATORS FOR the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) said yesterday they had been granted leave to appeal to the House of Lords after creditors lost an initial appeal against the Bank of England last week over claims that the central bank wrongfully granted BCCI a licence and did not withdraw it quickly enough.

The appeal is likely to be heard by five law lords in the House of Lords by the middle of next year, the joint liquidators Deloitte & Touche said in a statement. The case stems from the claims of 6,000 British depositors seeking compensation worth £600m plus interest from the Bank of England.

BCCI collapsed and was closed by banking regulators in 1991 with debts of \$12bn in what was the biggest fraud in banking history. It left some 150,000 depositors worldwide scrambling to recover lost money. Creditors have so far been returned dividends of 46 per cent, or over \$4bn.

Morton in line to lead rail body



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SIR ALASTAIR MORTON, the former co-chairman of Eurotunnel (pictured). emerged yesterday as a front-runner to head the Strategic Rail Authority, the body that will implement the Government's vision of a

top-class railway system within 10 years. Sir Alastair, 60, has been tipped as SRA chairman

because of his role in advising John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, on the rescue of the Channel Tunnel link rail project. The two-and-half-day a week job carries a salary of £120,000. The Government did not respond to the report, and Sir Alastair was unavailable for comment.

Ohmeda chief's £1.8m payoff

ROGER STOLL, the former chief executive of Ohmeda, the healthcare company sold by industrial gases group BOC for £604m earlier this year, received a £1.8m payoff when he resigned in April, according to company accounts.

The payment consisted of two years' salary, plus a bonus of £1.1m connected to the disposal of Ohmeda to a consortium comprising the Finnish company Instrumentarium and two US healthcare groups, Becton Dickinson and Baxter International.

Mr Stoll also exercised share options worth a further 1597,000.

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Source: Thomas Cook

Rover workers vote strongly for job cuts plan

ROVER'S 37,000 workforce yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favour of the car-maker's plans to cut 2.500 jobs and introduce more flexible working practices in return for a pledge to keep open the Rover plant at bridge. Longbridge in the West Mid-

The vote, which was 72 per

By Andrew Garfield

parent, BMW, to approve the £400m of new investment needed to bring the manufacture of the new Mini to Long-

Unions are also hoping that yesterday's vote will clear the way for an early decision on a cent in favour of the plan, paves further £1.6bn of investment in the way for the group's German a new, medium-sized car to be

gives its approval to 200m in

state aid. The vote follows the resignation of Rover's chairman, Walter Hasselkus, after failing to return the company to profitability. His place will be taken by fellow German Werner

launched early in the next cen- chairman of BMW's managetury, once the Government ment board, yesterday wel-

> This decision is a milestone," he said. "We are very pleased with the results of the

Tony Woodley, the Transport & General Workers Union negotiator who fought for the deal added: "For a deal as con-will go some of the way towards

comed the outcome of the vote. vote for common sense. I am extremely delighted."

Of the 30,000 workers eligible to vote, 17.784 voted in favour of the deal, with 7,045

The package, which aims to cut £150m a year in overheads. Bernd Pischetsrieder, the troversial as this, this is a very bridging the 30 per cent pro-

good result. I would have been ductivity gap between Rover happy with 60/40. I think it is a and its key rivals.

"The worst thing would have been a grudging victory," said a Rover spokesman yesterday. The deal will mean Rover workers moving progressively to a Continental-style 37-hour four-day week, starting next year, which will enable existing capacity to be used more

Cadbury nets £1.1bn from drinks sale CADBURY SCHWEPPES completed one of the most impor-Associate City Editor

tant deals in its history yesterday when it agreed to sell its soft drinks businesses outside the United States to Coca-Cola for £1.1bn.

The deal is a strategic watershed for the confectionery and soft drinks group, which has recognised that it cannot fight against the might of Coca-Cola and Pepsi round the world. It plans to shift its focus towards confectionery instead.

Cadbury will retain the Schweppes brand in the US, but it will now account for only 2 per cent of group business. The company is therefore likely to change its name, with Schweppes expected to be dropped. "We will consider the name of the company in due course," the company said.

Cadbury will no longer control the Schweppes brand in the UK, where it has become synonymous with mixers such as tonic water, dry ginger, bitter lemon and others.

Cadbury-Schweppes says it remains committed to Dr Pepper, the flavoured soft drink said it would be looking for acquisition opportunities in confectionery. John Sunderland, chief ex-

ecutive, said Cadbury's soft drinks operations had been constrained by small market shares and a complicated distribution arrangement under which it relies on its main rivals for bottling and distribution. Although Cadbury has a 15

per cent share of the Us soft drinks market, its average is only 3 per cent in other markets. "We see a lot of opportunities for consolidation in

200 years of **SCHWEPPES**

1783 – Jacob Schweppe, a Swiss jeweller and amateur scientist, develops a fizzy mineral water in Geneva. He comes to London's Drury Lane the same year to set up manufacture

1890s - Floated on the London stock market as J Schweppe

1957 - Launches Schweppes bitter lemon 1960s - Company develops a string of well known advertising campaigns, including Sch ... you know who using the voice of actor

William Franklin 1969 - Merges with Cadbury to form Cadbury Schweppes 1998 – Trademark sold to Coca-Cola in 120 countries, excluding the United States

confectionery, which we frankly didn't see in bevera Mr Sunderland

The brands included in the deal are Schweppes Dr Pepper, Canada Dry, Crush and Oasis, in 120 countries outside the US. Last year these operations yielded profits of £56m, 9 per cent of the group total. Cadbury will also be selling its bottling operations and other assets outside the US for an estimated £500m, and its drinks businesses in France and South

Africa. The deals are expected to reach completion in mid-1999,

around £1bn. Possible targets include Suchard, although Philip Morris may not be willing to sell. It may also return to the confectionery market in the US, which it left 11 years ago when it licensed the Cadbury name to Hershey.

But analysts suggest a share buyback is the most likely outcome. However, some added that the sale may make the streamlined group more vulnerable to takeover.

The deal was welcomed in the City, where Cadbury Schweppes shares were marked up 6 per cent to 989p, close to an all-time high. Tim Potter, food analyst at Merrill Lynch, said: "They are selling not because they can't hack it with the big boys, but at this price, who can blame them?"

Mr Potter said the sale made a demerger of the US drinks business more likely, although the company was most likely to use the proceeds for a share buyback. "This deal shows that the management is really serious about creating shareholder value."

Another analyst said: "It is an admission of defeat. They are saying it would have cost too much to have really backed soft drinks outside America. and the distribution problems were just to complicated. But this looks like a good way out."

Cadbury also said it planned to relaunch its 7-Up brand in the US for the second time in two years. The relaunch will take place in January, and see the current advertising slogan -"It's an Up thing" - replaced with something "more punchy".

In the US yesterday, Coca-Cola issued a profits warning on giving Cadbury a warchest of its fourth-quarter earnings.

C&W shares plunge 4% as | Equities slide as rate cut Brown is poached by EDS | ignites fears on economy

Cadbury Schweppes has recognised that it cannot fight the global might of Coca-Cola

and Pepsi in soft drinks, and will shift its focus to confectionery

fell more than 4 per cent yesterday following news that Britain's second-biggest telecoms company had lost its chief executive, Dick Brown.

Computer services giant Electronic Data Systems (EDS) said it had secured Mr Brown's services as its new chairman and chief executive from 15 January, ending the 51-yearold American's eventful, twoand-a-half year reign at C&W.

Mr Brown was credited with turning a foundering telecoms empire into a potential world force in the fast-converging communications, information and entertainment industries.

SHARES IN Cable & Wireless Investors fear his exit raises ecutive Rod Olsen, 53, as acting questions over the strategic chief and said it would set up a direction of the British group. "Although I don't think

investors will panic, it is undoubtedly a very big blow for Cable & Wireless," said Justinian Clifford Bowles, analyst at Credit Lyonnais Securities. "He was the single architect of the group's transformation

from an unloved and disparate telecoms holding company into a much more focused and shareholder-friendly group." Analysts at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell downgraded their

rating on C&W stock to "neutral" from "outperform". C&W named deputy chief ex-

committee under chairman Sir Ralph Robins to appoint a replacement as soon as possible.

Mark Chilvers

Sir Ralph said the company had a strong team and its future direction was set, and would tap "the very best of the world's talent" in replacing Mr Brown. C&W said it would shortly

announce replacements for Mr Brown in his posts as chairman of three C&W affiliates, the UK company Cable & Wireless Communications, HongKong Telecommunications, and Australian telecoms group Cable &

EUROPEAN STOCK prices turnbled yesterday amid growing fears about the outlook for corporate earnings and new con-

cerns about the possible impeachment of President Bill Clinton. The FTSE 100 closed down

118.6 points at 5,541.7 in thin trade, having been down as much as 144 points at one point in the day. Better-than-expected US data helped the market stage a partial recovery in the afternoon, said analysts. Ken Wattret at Paribas said:

"The UK equity market has been performing very poorly rate cut. The cut has been seen Japanese Tankan survey - a key subdued.

By LEA PATERSON

as confirmation the economy is in trouble. I also think there is an element of profit taking." London trading volumes were low as leading houses cut back on activity ahead of the

launch of the euro in three weeks. Equity prices in Paris and Frankfurt were also sharply down, with the German Xetra DAX shedding more than 2 per cent. In Asia, global worries

- 2.7 per cent - at 14.405.64.

indicator of business confidence contributed to the slide.

In New York, impeachment worries and more blue-chip profit warnings hit investor confidence. By lunch-time, however, the Dow Jones average was trading off earlier lows on the release of better-than-expected economic data.

US retail sales rose by 0.6 per cent in November, a sign that US consumer spending is still

Separate figures showed weighed on equities, with that US producer prices fell last Japan's Nikkei 225 down 402.16 month for the first time in three months, suggesting inflationary since [Thursday's] interest- Nerves ahead of Monday's pressures remain relatively

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

SHARES WERE in ragged retreat from the start of trading. Weak overseas stock markets, particularly New York, hit sentiment and Footsie ended 118.6 points down at 5,541.7; at one time it was off 144.8. Supporting shares

were also lowered.

Cadbury Schweppes resisted the gloom, surging 54.5p to 989p following its soft drink deal with Coca-Cola, the US giant. Marks & Spencer fell 26p to a year's low of 392p after departing director Keith Oates, sold 100,000 shares at 419p a

Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK

STOCKS WERE mixed yesterday, with a fall in the Dow Jones counteracted by continued firmness in the computer-related sector, and the publication of a report showing a larger than

expected fall in producer prices. Coca-Cola tumbled 5 per cent, as the company announced that profits would be 15 per cent lower than expected. Many analysts think stocks are overvalued. In mid afternoon trading, the

Dow was unchanged at 8,840.

cent to 2,030.

while the Nasdaq had added 1 per

● TOKYO

THE BENCHMARK Nikkei 225 dropped 2.72 per cent, or 402.16 points, to finish at 14,405,64 - the lowest close since 19 November – following Thursday's drop on Wall Street. Further selling was triggered by the settlement of monthly stock future contracts.

The US dollar recovered from a dip beneath the 117-yen level as Japanese investors moved in to buy at what they saw as an attractive price. The dollar's fall followed remarks by the Bank of Japan governor, who said its rate was not mreasonable.

HONG KONG

THE OVERNIGHT fall on Wall Street sent Hong Kong shares sharply down, as concerns that exports will be hurt reversed recent gains. In brisk trading, the Hang Seng closed at 9,952, a slump of 3.5 per cent.

One bearish trader commented: "the second phase of the emerging market contagion – this time likely to involve South America, Brazil and China – is looming. Any short-term upside potential is definitely capped."

HSBC Holdings dropped 4 per cent to HK\$189.

FRANKFURT

GERMAN SHARES plunged again yesterday, after shedding over 6 per cent this week, to finish at a six-week low, as the US dollar continued to fall against the German mark.

Traders also noted reluctance among investors to take positions ahead of the introduction of the euro in the new year, making it hard to envisage a rebound from the recent rally in the market.

The benchmark Dax fell over 2 per cent, to close at 4,540, wile the electronically traded Xetra Dax ended down 2.31 per cent at 4543.0.

THE INDEPENDENT Saturday 12 December 1998

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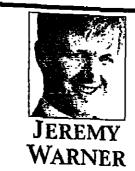
A Total State 1-2 " Field I'm .

Retailers feel the prices squeeze

Government being too ngland's Monetary Policommittee cut short-term inrates by "only" half a en the Bank now admits me is some chance of recession at year, albeit a small one.

poor by more, the Bank of Eng-monited, would be to risk inwine ence more climbing back injectic official target level of 2.5 ent Too little, screamed the A Retail Consortium, which hished its own Shop Price Index a demonstrate that high street rices are in fact falling, not rising

there is undoubtedly some truth these claims, never mind the fact the BRC seems deliberately to the targeted a shopping basket with a part of the part of the part of the prices of food, assumer durables and most utiliservices are indeed gently de-To the extent that some milic prices are rising - cigarettes and alcohol, for instance - this is righty down to higher taxation.



Most of us are keenly aware of this relatively new phenomenon price deflation

Even if we accept that the BRC index gives a slanted view, most of us are keenly aware of this relatively new phenomenon - price defla-tion. The effect of it is all too apparent, not just in falling high street prices, but also in our buying habits. What's the point of buying a new PC

the new year sales?

This cat and mouse game between consumer and retailer has been apparent in Christmas shopping patterns for many years now, but this year, with talk of recession in the air and the reality of falling prices, rather than merely the expectation of them, it has reached extreme proportions. Many retailers are predicting their worst Christmas in 20 years.

But it is not just against the BRC yardstick that the Government's Retail Price Index seems to exaggerate the position. Set against European measures of inflation, it also looks out on a limb. Using the European measure - the so-called Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) - British prices are rising at just 1.3 per cent a year. This is a little higher than the overall inflation rate for euroland, but it is still well below the 2 per cent ceiling the European Central Bank will be using for inflation targeting

Why then are our own short-term for Christmas, when you know it's interest rates still so much higher money on. In theory, therefore, it is

point cut, they are more than double those of our European partners. Just to put that in perspective, the average mortgage-holder would be £150 a month better off if our interest rates conformed with those of the rest of Europe. We shouldn't forget the millions of savers who would be worse off in all this, but across the country as a whole, the impact would plainly be

considerable. The answer to the question why lies in our soaraway service sector. The price of the simple bear necessities, from food and energy through to mobile phones, computers and the Internet (this is the late 20th century, you know), are indeed on the wane, but you just try taking a train or a taxi, buying a foreign holiday, getting your hair cut, going to a restaurant or hiring

The Office of National Statistics attempts to construct the RPI in a weighted way which reflects what British people actually spend their

cent, even after this week's half- than any of the alternatives. Ar- At the very least, house prices are guably, Europe's HICP understates the real rate of inflation. But if. alternatively, the position is overstated by the RPL it really doesn't make any difference. If Europe used the RPI, it would presumably have a higher inflation target.

This still doesn't answer the question of why our interest rates are still so much higher. Surely if inflation is about the same, then interest rates should be as well, shouldn't they? In the long term, it is impossible to contest the logic of this argument, but just consider the effect of cutting UK rates down to 3 per cent, or even just 5 per cent, with immediate effect.

Britons are used to living with high inflation and high interest rates. Culturally and structurally this makes our economic behaviour quite different from that of the deutschemark economies. Web hey! would be our response. Just think of it, a mortgage rate of 4 or even 5

At a stroke, an average mortgage

going to soar. As likely as not, we'll be going out a bit more, we'll be jetting off to the winter sun, we might even start getting out hair cut more often.

Whatever we spent our money on, prices and wages would start rising again quite quickly. Within no time at all, we'd have a boom on our hands. It all comes down to the old point that the British economy is out of sync with the rest of Europe. We are close to the top of the business cycle going down, they are close to the bottom going up, or at least most of them are. Even though our inflation rates are about the same, it is not yet appropriate for us to

have the same interest rates. How quickly we get to that point depends on the Bank's and the Government's success in exorcising our inflationary traditions. On this score, the signs are already good. Long-term interest rates, as dictated by yields on long bonds, are much closer to European levels than short term ones - less than 1 per-

going to be 10 per cent cheaper in than the rest of Europe? At 6.25 per a better measure of price inflation extra £30,000 and be no worse off. Nobody, other than the Government, can yet borrow at these rates. of course, but the benefit of them is already apparent in ever-cheaper fixed rate mortgage deals.

None of this means that the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee is getting it exactly right on interest rates. Prices are behaving in ways we haven't experienced for decades. The ONS managed to cock up on the earnings figures; who's to say it's any better on the RPL And in any case, the RPI is a backward-looking measure.

It may be that the British Retail Consortium is right to insist that the reality is falling prices. Certainly the expectation of them, coming on top of the fear of recession, is beginning to distort spending behaviour very markedly. If they mean we are deferring expenditure, that in itself is

recessionary.
On the other hand, the MPC is right to resist the pressure for much steeper immediate cuts in interest rates. It would be a terrible thing to undermine our new lowinflation economy just as we seem holder would be able to borrow an centage point against 3.25 points. to be getting it right for a change.

Midshires

members

vote for

takeover

MEMBERS OF Birmingham Midshires yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favour of a £750m agreed bid from Halifax, writes Andrew Verity. Of 750,000 members eligible

to vote, 525,000 investing mem-

bers voted in favour of accept-

ing the bid, while 25,000 voted

against. Of borrowing mem-

bers, 50,000 voted in favour and 3,000 against. The vote in favour

comfortably exceeded the min-

imum for societies planning to

Shares in ragged retreat as US alarm spreads

MOTSIE SUFFERED a fall of mre than 100 points as inestors fretted by about col-lexing commodity prices and wai displays by overseas such market. By the close the mer was nursing a 118.6 dedue at 5,541.7; at one time it v≥ off 144.8.

Shares were in ragged re rat from the opening bell. Ww York's overnight plunge adweakness in Hong Kong and layusent alarm bells ringing. With institutional investors sinting a cautious stance, the rating traffic was all one way. The week's base rate cut and nega-merger failed to have any ksing influence. With the move by owned ONdigital television operation, added 16p to 953p. arb sterling exporters found banselves under renewed

Profit warnings from Merck men to insettle New York, sting a decidedly negative in on the current reporting

There is a growing convicis in some quarters that the

WNEX IS the latest edoration share to suffer ate discomfort. It fell (a) to 14p, a far cry from # 87.5p peak hit last year. Tr group, with World pak and Russian interests amuting for significant preholdings, operates in wold USSR, where it has det appeared to be ruising oil concessions. his being hit by the deriorating economic quation.

sitional Christmas rally is paned this year even before _{li}en start.

t is suggested many instiponal investors will be too geocupied with the arrival of peuro to pay much attention nuch mundane activities as ring the market over the fesr season. However, any fesr surge is usually achieved nin trading with private inors, who are unlikely to be ged down by the euro, playza leading role.

aradoxically, on the day adbury jumped to within a

rerbial wafer of its peak 10.5p to 267.5p. a 54.5p surge to 989p. The res have been firm this k following a bottling deal 14 PepsiCo. They opened on 11day at 865p.

lesco was another Footsie ,stituent to buck the trend, ing 1p to 165p as analysts _nied up positive signals at an

Turnover (£)

6.906m (5.39m)

36 082m (36 835m) 0.159m (0.639m) 66.725m (63.820m) 13.374m (20.310m)

44,812m (42,448m) 0.612m (0.021m)

MARKET REPORT



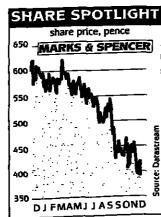
DEREK PAIN

eastern European briefing. Granada, helped by the possibility of a flotation of its joint-

Retailers were at the forefront of the retreat. Marks & small cap index managed to Spencer found a new year's low, down 26p to 392p. Keith withen Coco-Cola have done Oates, who lost the furious boardroom succession battle and is leaving the group, sold 100,000 shares at 419p. He still

British Aerospace was lowered 22.5p to 502p and Rolls-

Royce 9p to 227p. Cable & Wireless, off 30p to 695p, was hit by the surprise departure of its US born chief executive, Dick Brown, who has been largely responsible for revitalising and reshaping the



telecoms giant. He is moving to a US computer company, Electronic Data Systems.

Halifax, the mortgage bank, hardened Ip to 849.5p as the Birmingham Midshires acquisition was voted through.

Not for the first time on a Friday afternoon. United Biscuits a-Cola w Tetrled New York, experienced a run, up 15p at 254p. The shares have in the chip leader board after past enjoyed some spectacular ing most of its non-US soft surges as takeover rumours k interests to the American have swirled around. Sears, where high street entrepreneur Philip Green hovers, rose

St James's Place, the insurance group which has enjoyed speculative attention, put on 8p to 279p - due to Morgan Stanley interest. The investment house put a 320p target on the shares.

It was not the ideal debut day. Financial Objects, a bank- Gilt Index: n/a

COMPANY RESULTS

-11,47p (-7,93p)

4 4p (7 5q) 5 37p (-1.30p) 19.0p (18.35p) -1.40p (0 5p) 23.1p (-19.9p) -2.27p (-3.37p) 15.48p (19.15p) -16.56p (2.98p)

Pre-tax (£)

-5 884m (-4.012m) -2.518m (7.016m) 0.300m (-0.165m) 3 962m (5.384m) -0.462m (0.17023m) 8 404m (-7.023m) -1.552m (-1.931m) 10.403m (12.253m) -1.409m (0.855m)

ing software group, braved the prevailing gloom, closing at 241.5p in busy trading against a 230p placing. At one time the price touched 265p.

IMI, the engineer once part of Imperial Chemical industries, fell 18.5p to 243.5p after the investment house BT Alex.Brown was said to have trimmed its profit expectations to around £150m from £157.3m.

WestLB Panmure, the old Panmure Gordon, supported PowerGen, down 25.5p to 778.5, with a 1,000 target, and Salomon Smith Barney lifted its General Electric Co target from 500p to 550p. The shares firmed 1.5p to 539p.

with their peers, although the confine its fall to 8.1 points at 2,012.6. The mid cap indicator fell 43.1 to 4,736.9.

Still the under-card bids continued to flow. Hozelock, the garden products group hit by the poor summer weather. spurted 51p to 292.5p as a management buyout was mooted.

FAIRVIEW HOLDINGS, the

house-builder demerged from Hillsdown in October, climbed 10.5p to 90.5p in busy trading on continuing speculation that Berkeley will mount a takeover bid. The up-market builder has made no secret of its admiration for Fairview which has had a subdued time since it was split from Hillsdown. The shares opened at 102.5p but had fallen to 76p at one stage.

Two years ago shares of the hosepipe group topped 550p and last summer reached 371p. Jackson jumped 12p to 79.5p after fellow construction group Peterhouse, down 4.5p at 87p, emerged with a near £19m share exchange offer.

Celsis International, the healthcare group, tumbled 6.5p to 23p after takeover talks, which have dragged on for six months, broke down. Evans Halshaw, the car dealer, reversed 3p to 221p

after it was disclosed that Pen-

dragon was the mystery suitor. Pendragon fell 2p to 152p. Profit warnings took their toll. Portmeirion Potteries. following Royal Doulton gloom, cracked 15p to 145p after producing another alert, suggesting year's profits will be between £1.5m and £1.8m; the shares once hit 565p. Printing

group Fulmer dropped 25.5p to

57p; it said profits will be below

expectations.

Dividend

3.5p (5.7p) 1.00p (0.50p) 6.40p (5.69p)

B.1p (7.5p)

- (-) 13.20p (12.90p) 3 Sp (3.5p)

Seaq volume: 932.6 million Seaq trades: 69,764

Pay day

05.04.99 06.01.99 05.02.96

03 03 99

21 12.98 11 (11.99

01.02.99

Supporting shares suffered Birmingham Midshires' chairman, John Leighfield, at the special general meeting to approve the deal Andrew Fox

demutualise, imposed in last year's Building Societies Act. Ian Kerr, chief executive, said: "We are delighted members have chosen to back the

transfer to the Halifax." Most of Midshires' 950,000 members will receive just #400 under the society's plans to dis-tribute windfalls following the takeover next April. Longstanding savers will get an av-

IN BRIEF

Milan's Mif leaves Liffe on sidelines

PRESSURE on Liffe - the London International Futures and Options Exchange - to join the rush for overseas partners grew yesterday with the decision by Milan's derivatives exchange, Mif, to thrown in its lot with Euro-Globex, linking France's Matif and Monep and Meff Renta Fija, the Spanish ex-

change. The deal leaves Liffe as the only major European futures market outside the increasingly complex network of cross-border alliances. Europe's other major alliance. Eurex, was formed when Germany's Deutsche Terminborse, linked with the Swiss futures exchange last year.

Portmeirion warns SHARES in Portmeirion Potteries yesterday slid 15p to 145p after the group warned that November sales were disappointing, and indications are that this trend is continuing in December". It expected its pre-tax trading profit for the year to 31 December to be between £1.5m and £1.8m, from £5.5m a year earlier. However, it said the final dividend would be 9.95p. unchanged from last year.

Jackson's £1m PETERHOUSE GROUP, the

construction services company, yesterday announced that it had made an agreed allshare offer for Jackson Group, the civil engineering company, which values Jackson at £18.9m or 88p per David Jackson, chairman

of both Peterhouse and Jackson, will net £1m from his 5 per cent stake in Jackson. whose shares rose 18 per cent to 80p.

Egg trims rate

EGG, the new bank owned by Prudential, said it would cut its variable mortgage rate by half a point to 6.99 per cent from 4 January. The rate is more than 1 per cent lower than Egg's savings rate of 8 per cent.

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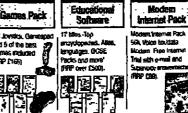
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20/SHARES

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Buyout

in the

News Analysis: Advertising's drive to go global looks irresistible as another UK agency is taken over

US buyer scoops Abbott for £346m

By Peter Thal Larsen

ANOTHER advertising agency bowed out of the London stock market yesterday when Abbott Mead Vickers, one of the most respected names in British advertising, agreed a £346m takeover by the US giant

The deal is the second time in 1998 that Omnicom, which is the largest advertising company in the world on revenues, has pulled out its cheque book to buy a UK agency. Earlier this year it spent £146m on the GGT Group.

The Abbott Mead deal has not come as a huge surprise. The British agency has been one of Omnicom's representatives in the London advertising world for nine years, by acting as part of its worldwide BBDO network. The US group has also owned at least a 25 per cent stake in AMV since 1991.

The agency is one of the most attractive assets in UK advertising, best known for its eye-catching campaigns for products such as Guinness and The Economist. According to Campaign, the industry trade magazine, Abbott Mead Vickers-BBDO was the largest agency in the UK in 1997 with billings of £356m.

What is more, AMV controls a clutch of other companies involved in related areas such as public relations, direct marketing and media buying. Freud Communications, the consumer public relations outfit run by industry guru Matthew Freud, is a subsidiary of AMV.

The company also has a very strong reputation in the City as one of the few groups which was able to grow through the previous recession. "The directors went out and won enough business to make sure they didn't have to fire anyone







AMV's principals (clockwise from top left) - David Abbott, Peter Mead, chief exec Michael Baulk and Adrian Vickers - recognise the logic of the link with Omnicom

Richards, media analyst at West LB Panmure, the merchant bank. "The City has loved them for it ever since."

Despite all AMV's strengths, Omnicom wanted full control. "The bid was a question of when, not if," Mr Richards adds. "The UK is the fourthlargest advertising market in the world, and if I were a major player I would want my UK network to be fully owned." The same argument applied to GGT which has now been fully integrated into TBWA, another of Omnicom's global networks.

This may make sense for Omnicom, but was it necessary for AMV? According to Peter man, there is little to stop a few creative people from setting up an advertising company in the

same way he and his fellow

founders did in 1977. "One of the great joys of the advertising business is that it doesn't cost very much to set up shop," he says. This is AMV's experience - despite starting from a small base it quickly grew by picking up prestigious accounts such as Sainsbury's, Yellow Pages and Volvo. They are still clients today. Nevertheless, Mr Mead points out

that for really large interna-

tional accounts, a global net-

The logic of a bid was strengthened by the fact that the City was beginning to ask questions about AMV's future. Co-founder David Abbott had already retired, and Adrian Vickers and Peter Mead, the chairman, are in their fifties.

And then there is the globalisation argument. Advertising, the argument goes, is globalising along with its customer base. To serve large multinational accounts, agencies have to be able to design campaigns and carry them out in any market the client wants.

In theory, then, taking over AMV should not make any real difference to Omnicom. But industry sources suggest that the Abbott Mead Vickers-

> com had wanted. Peter Mead, AMV chairman, insists the takeover will benefit both companies. "This will bring us closer together and give an opportunity for our people to work internationally."

BBDO relationship did not

always work as well as Onni-

GROWTH MARKETS

Abbot Mead Vickers

Share price, pence

DIFMAMIJASONDIEMAMIJASOND

The UK advertising markets

World advertising growth forecasts % change at current prices

But sceptics point out that this argument has been heard before and proved false. In the late 1980s, British advertising

giants or will have to concentrate on niche businesses in their own countries. "The process of consolidation has not stopped," says one

observer. "It's just that US companies, which are valued more highly by the market and have a lower cost of capital, are making most of the acquisi-This argument is borne out

by the way the Omnicom-AMV takeover is structured. The US group is not paying cash, but is ssuing its own highly-rated paper in return for AMV shares. What's more, by accounting for the transaction as a pooling of interests, Omnicom avoids having to write off the goodwill that would normally be associated with a

This allows Omnicom to offer a high price without diluting its own profitability. The deal values AMV at almost three times revenues and a multiple of 27 times last year's earnings. "You won't find many companies trading on those multiples in the UK," says one industry executive.

While they are globalising. advertising companies are also diversifying. Twenty years ago they would do little more than design a campaign, leaving it up to the company to make sure it was carried out properly. But as different forms of media proliferate, advertising companies are increasingly designing complete strategies. As a result, they have started buying up public relations and media

planning agencies.

It may still be too early to tell. stopped. Martin Sorrell, chief executive of WPP, argues that eventually there will only be But it looks as if the vision of a room for five global advertising global "one-stop-shop for all groups. Giants such as Omniadvertising needs may yet com and Interpublic, which

pipeline for hose owns the McCann Erickson network, are almost certain to be among them. The others will company either be swallowed up by the

BY SIMON DUKE

THE ANNOUNCEMENT Y terday of a proposed manament buyout by chief executive David Codling sent Hozelod shares soaring to a five-month In a statement, the comp

ny said that "an approach ha been received from a financial institution which is considering an offer to be led by David Codling, the chief executive Hozelock" Mr Codling, whose backing

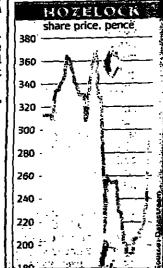
is believed to come from a verture capital company. let la: management buyout of the company from Ropner Group at the early 1990s, floating the business shortly afterwards.

The company reported city appointing year-end figures la week, which showed that the pre-tax profit had fallen by 2 per cent to £4.7m.

Hozelock blame the "exceptional weather are current cy situation of the past two years, and the tougher it ternational environment" ior

The strength of sterling cost the company up to £1m. 26 cording to a statement. with hose and attachment sales suffering from one of the wetter. summers on record.

It is not yet known what size the eventual offer will be. Analysts say it is very difficult **to**



Lonrho Africa wins vote

LONRRO AFRICA yesterday narrowly won a bitter battle with investors linked to George Soros who were trying to break up the troubled sub-Saharan

After a tense night of votecounting, the hotels-to-agriculture group announced that its shareholders had defeated the rebels' proposal to oust three board directors.

At a heated meeting in London, Lonrho Africa's shareholders, which include 33,000 small investors, voted by a slim margin to keep chairman Bernard Asher and non-executive directors Stephen Wallis and Michael Wilson on the

The knife-edge vote was a blow to the attempt by Blakeney

AER/Gross % AER/Gross %

5.80

5.45

90 Day Nobes

£100,000+

£ 50,000+

Management and African interests in Africa, to change cotton plantations to Toyota put an end to a two-month feud which rocked Lonrho Africa, a recent spin-off from the late Tiny Rowland's mining glant.

The rebel investors - Lourho Africa's largest shareholders with 10.1 per cent - wanted to replace the three directors with Miles Morland, the chairman of Blakeney, John Jackson, the chairman of leisure group Ladbroke, and businessman Dekel

In a bitter campaign marked by mud-slinging on both sides, Blakeney and African Lakes, in which a Soros fund has a stake,

Net % AER % Gross % AER % Gross % Net %

4.64 6.15 5.98 5.55 5.41 4.33

4.36 5.90 5.75 5.20 5.08 4.06

ing shareholder value. They said the strategy of keeping to-

pany's prospects. The rebels were understood to want to break up and sell off a large part of the company's businesses. Blakeney and African Lakes were also angry at the share price's underperformance

since demerger. The shares have lost around a quarter of their value since the company was spun off from Lonrho in May. They closed down 4p at 61p yesterday.

The board of Lonrho Africa, led by chief executive Mark Newman, rejected the allegations and accused Blakeney of

accused the board of destroy- trying to gain control of the company without paying a premium. In an angry outburst, Mr Lakes, an investment fund with gether companies ranging from Asher accused the Blakeney nominees of having little expelacking a consistent strategy.

Mr Morland said Blakeney would not abandon its fight to improve the company's performance. "We believe that the ideas we have put forward are right. In the politest possible way. Blakeney will continue to knock on Mr Asher's door."

He hinted that if the company's performance did not improve over the next three months, the board could be faced with another revolt at the shareholder meeting in March next year. Lonrho Africa de-

United News forecasts slashed after warning

agencies such as Saatchi &

Saatchi and WPP borrowed

heavily to build global networks

which would offer a "one-stop

shop" of services for large

clients. But when recession

hit, the dream ended. Now

Saatchi & Saatchi and Cor-

diant Communications Group -

once part of the same group -

are separate listed companies.

insist the trend has not

But industry executives

CITY ANALYSTS slashed their BY ANDREW VERITY News & Media yesterday when the group warned its results

would be hit by economic slowdowns in the US and the UK. In a scheduled trading statement, United said overall trading results will be lower in 1998 than expected. The company's share price finished 12p down

"We approach 1999 with confidence ... but we are realistic about the higher than usual degree of uncertainty in the major economies," the group said.

Miller Freeman, the busi-

tions were also buffeted by slumping demand for adver-

pointed by the prospect of higher costs stemming from a tough new TV licensing regime. United has decided to renew its licence for HTV and Meridian, but not for Anglia. United can also expect to save only \$23m next year in licence payments, roughly half the amount ex-

ABN Amro yesterday slashed its forecasts for 1999 by more than 10 per cent. It now anticipates earnings of £260m against a previous forecast of £305m. Merrill Lynch cut its 1999 forecast from £297.6m to

A spokesman for United said rather than weakness, in the US "Our housing magazines

have suffered because the market is running ahead. The need to advertise diminishes when housing turnover is high," he

United said consumer publications were still performing well. Exchange & Mart and Dalton's Weekly reached record levels of advertising revenue and boosted circulation. The Express titles had "performed well in difficult conditions."

United now has a £600n war-chest for acquisitions following the disposal last month of Garban, its money broking division. The group said it would continue to identify and exploit opportunities for growth around the globe.

DIFMAMILASOND value Hozelock because of influence of unpredictable British summer weather on the company's performance. This makes its cash flows extreme ly volatile, and a base level of earnings almost impossible to

One analyst, who declined to be named, said that the com-pany had an exellent brand name and institutional investors would expect at least 300p per Hozelock share.

"Mr Codling has given the market ample time to value the company correctly, and obviously feels that the share price slump of recent months is an ideal time to take Hozelock back into private ownership," the analyst said. Mr Codling was unavailable for comment yesterday.

At the close of trading, Hoze lock shares had risen by 51p. or 21 per cent, to 293

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From start of business on 12 December 1998 the following rates of interest are applicable to the accounts set out below, except for Young Savers and TSB First Save Accounts which will change from start of business on 15 December 1998.

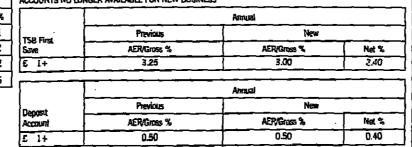
E 25,000÷	5.90	5.20	4.15	5.65	5.51	4.95	4.84	3.87
£ 10,000+	5 60	4 90	3.92	5.35	5.22 ·	4.65	4.55	3,64
	T	Annual				Monthly		
60 Day Notice	Previous	New		Pre	VIOUS		New	
Account*	AER/Gross %	AER Gross %	Net %	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %
£ 50,000+	5.50	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.41	4.00	3.93	3.14
€ 25.000÷	5 20	4.70	3.76	4.20	4.12	3.70	3.64	2.91
£ 10,000÷	4.90	4.40	3.52	3,90	3.83	3.40	3.35	2.68
€ 5,000+	3.85	3.35	2.68	2.65	2.81	2.35	2.33	1.86
£ 500+	3.60	3.10	2 48	2.60	2.57	2.10	2.08	1.66

	{	Annual		ĺ		Monthly			
Flexible Savines	Previous	ricus New Previous New		New		New Preyidus New			
Account	AER/Gross %	AER/Gross %	Net %	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %	
£ 10,000+	3.55	3.05	2.44	3.30	3.25	2.80	2.76	2.21	
£ 5,000+	3.05	2.55	2.04	2.80	2.76	2.30	2.28	1.82	
£ 500+	2.80	2.30	1.84	2.55	2.52	2.05	2.03	1.62	
Below £500	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.16	

	l	Annual		L		Quarterly				
leased Cold	Previous	New		Pre	Previous		New			
Instant Gold Savings Account*	AER/Gross %	AER/Gross %	Net %	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %		
£50,000+	5.75	5.25	4.20	5.25	5.15	4,75	4,67	3.73		
£25,000+	5,20	4.70	3.76	4,95	4.86	4.45	4.38	3.50		
£10,000+	4.90	4.40	3,52	4.65	4.57	4,}5	4.09	3.27		
£ 2.500+	4.55	4.05	3.24	4.30	4.23	3.80	3.75	3.00		
		Previous				New		=		

TESSA	AER/Tax	Free %	AER/Tax Free %				
All balances	6.0	55	6.15				
			Quarterly				
Young Savers	Prev	1006	New				
Accounts	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %		
£ 1+	3,29	3.25	3.55	3.50	2.80		
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oect United to show a fall in ness services arm which is the lowed by a further fall in 1999. biggest division of United, was hit this year by a slowdown in some of Miller Freeman's difthe agriculture, travel and enficulties were due to strength,

gineering sectors, where its trade magazines derive much of their revenue. Its US opera-

tising from the hi-tech sector The City was also disap-

£262m. Most analysts now ex-

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SPORT

The International Olympic Committee has a duty to protect athletes from self-inflicted damage in pursuit of success

No time for amnesty in war on drugs

chance to see the effect of drugs on sport, as opposed to merely suspecting you've seen it, or having the suspicion confirmed by the report of a oositive drug test a few months later. But it does happen.

One morning in 1993, on the warm-up track behind the Neckarstadion in Stuttgart, one of the world's best sprint relay ds were practising their than changes in readiness for the final of the world championships. For those standing next to the barrier around the perimeter of the track, their routines created a phenomenal impression of power and purpose. But that was nothing compared to the effect when one of the runners went berserk.

In a sort of psychic explosion for which there was no warning or evident explanation, the athlete tried to kill one of his coaches. Well, that's what he said he was trying to do, as he was pulled away from the emused coach by his teamuntrine was gradually sub-

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dued and led away. What had happened to this man was steroid rage, the outis one of the potential sideeffects of the banned musclebuilding chemical. Five years after Ben Johnson's historic disgrace in Seoul, here was evidence that the same kind of cheating had not gone away. And now, a further five years later, that athlete is a forgotten manding since returned to the obsciently from which he had suddenly emerged.

The findings of the inquir published in these pages this week will have dismayed many of those who attend sports events or watch them on the television in the expectation of seeing genuine human achievements conducted on a level playing field. What are the to make of the information than half of the élite responded to The Independent's questionnaire admitted to having taken creatine, the dietary supplement marketed as a legal alternative to anabolic steroids, and whose longterm effects are entirely

unknown? The individual responses were sometimes shattering in their candour and occasionally poignant in their distorted logic.
"I feel that everyone has their true potential," a 22-year-old weightlifter wrote, "and that it takes" vast amount of training to reach it. All this training has to be done in about a 15-year period, ie until your early thirties. Without steroids you may be unable to cope with the required training or you will not have done enough training before you reach an age where you are physically in decline. It is therefore possible that you will never reach your true potential without the use of

It is surely vital that these findings, and any others of a itude. In a changing world, similar kind, are seen against such attitudes needs constant against the background of re-examination - but always aring society. The texture damental principles without and rhythms of life in contem- which no sport (with the pos-



RICHARD Williams

porary Britain are conditioned by drug use, in all its varieties and moral shadings. And its financial importance is not confined to a producing nation such as Colombia. Who is to say that, in post-industrial Britain, the hidden economy of drug business does not provide, one way or another, a sigmificant financial underpinning of society?

Sport exists in society, and cannot help but mirror its symptoms. To take the most obvious example, both football's kicking and screaming hooligan phenomenon and its of Craig Reedie, one of Britain's current mega-prosperity were outgrowths not of the game itself but of developments in wider society. Similarly, drug burst of irrational violence that use among sportsmen and women is a by-product of the greater general acceptance of the existence of drugs whether to enhance perfor-



Ben Johnson's moment of apparent victory in Seoul

mance or pleasure – as well as of the increasing emphasis placed on success.

To be generous, this must be what Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the In-Olympic ternational Committee, had in mind when he suggested, earlier this year, that the idea of banning performance-enhancing drugs was out of date in a society which devotes so much of its resources to artificial personal enhancement of many kinds, from cosmetic surgery to assertiveness training. Samaranch advanced the notion that proscription should be applied only to substances which actually damage the health of the athletes.

For daring to think the unthinkable, and for thinking it aloud, the president deserves the sporting community's gratas a whole. We live in against a set of the sort of fun-

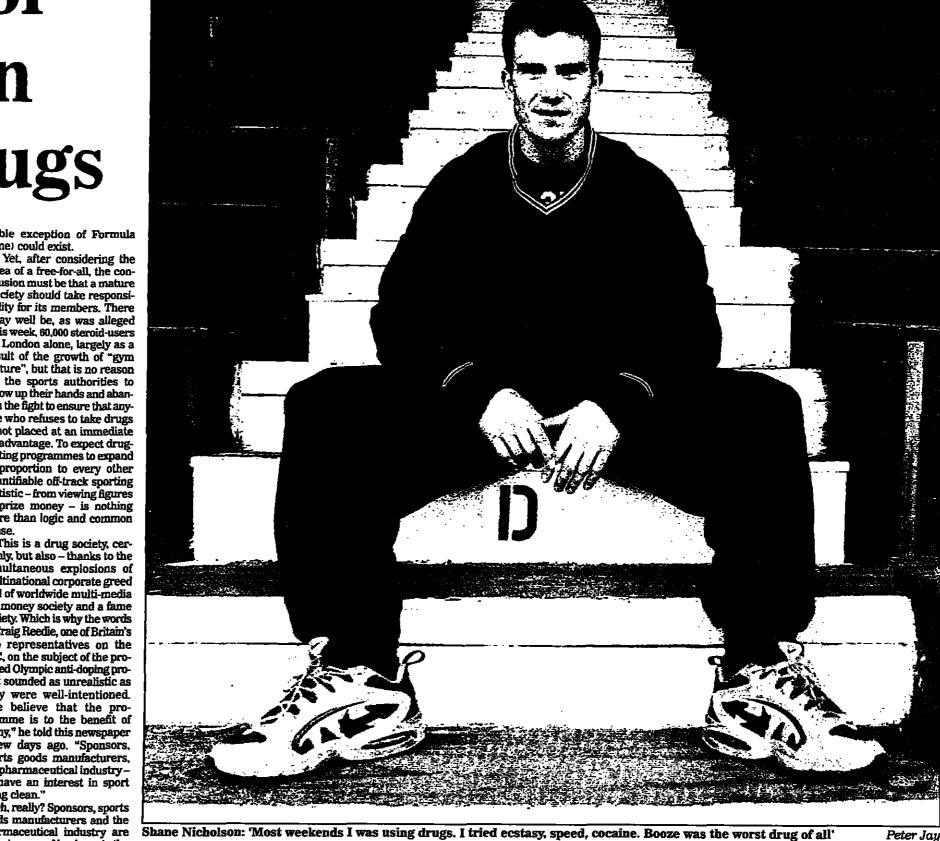
sible exception of Formula One) could exist.

idea of a free-for-all, the conclusion must be that a mature society should take responsibility for its members. There may well be, as was alleged this week, 60,000 steroid-users in London alone, largely as a result of the growth of "gym culture", but that is no reason for the sports authorities to throw up their hands and abandon the fight to ensure that anyone who refuses to take drugs is not placed at an immediate disadvantage. To expect drugtesting programmes to expand in proportion to every other quantifiable off-track sporting statistic - from viewing figures to prize money - is nothing more than logic and common

This is a drug society, certainly but also - thanks to the simultaneous explosions of multinational corporate greed and of worldwide multi-media - a money society and a fame society. Which is why the words two representatives on the IOC, on the subject of the proposed Olympic anti-doping project sounded as unrealistic as they were well-intentioned. "We believe that the programme is to the benefit of many," he told this newspaper a few days ago. "Sponsors, sports goods manufacturers, the pharmaceutical industry – all have an interest in sport being clean."

Oh, really? Sponsors, sports goods manufacturers and the harmaceutical industry are in business, and business in the modern world has a single purpose: to satisfy shareholders by the constant increase of profits. It would be extremely naive to believe that those organisations who stand to profit from sport are interested in healthy even in level playing fields. Whether their product is cigarettes, training shoes or dietary supplements, their only concern is the bottom line at the end of the financial year. The possible benefit of a morally healthy sport lies far beyond their profit-horizon. And if sport is generating what might appear to be unhealthy controversies, then their marketing departments are streetwise enough to incorporate such incidents into their advertising strategies. They are, at best,

morally neutral and should be treated as such. It's just about possible to imagine, say, the Wellcome Foundation seeing a commercial advantage in putting up the \$25m necessary to fund the worldwide drug-testing scheme that Reedie will present for the approval of the IOC's executive committee in February. But such a project does not exist for their benefit. It is for the benefit of athletes like the weightlifter who wrote to The Independent this week, young men and women who cannot be expected to see for themselves the benefit of abstaining from practices that and West Bromwich Albion. would improve their performance but might also endanger the life that waits beyond



The long road to recovery

bodies in healthy minds, or SHANE NICHOLSON came into the small, oak-panelled bar at Chesterfield's Recreation Ground after training and said: "I need a bloody drink." The 28year defender, six months down the long road to recovery from 12 years of alcoholism and drug addiction, walked straight past the bar and into the adjoining kitchen. "I hope there's something in here," he said, and opened the fridge. He took out a bottle, eased off the cap and downed the contents in one. "I needed that," he said, wiping

milk from his mouth. This time last year (and in many years past) it was not milk but alcohol Nicholson was downing. More often than not it would be preceded and fol-

lowed by a variety of narcotics. "I always thought I needed a drink or drugs to be confident to chat to people," he said. "Most weekends I was going and out and using drugs. I tried ecstasy, speed, cocaine, most things really. Booze was the worst drug of them all. I put my family through hell. I put every-

one I lived with through hell." The pattern of abuse started as 16-year-old with Lincoln, carried on through years at Derby and ended only in February this year, when he got caught. Having failed a previous test last November - and avoided punAfter years of abuse and a close call, Shane Nicholson was finally caught. Now, while rebuilding his career. the defender is also rebuilding his life. By Nick Harris

Association had decided to target-test him, meaning that at any time, in any place, a tester could arrive and ask for a "It was the most horrible feeling I've ever had in my

life," said Nicholson, describing the day two FA officials walked on to the training field at West Brom, "Training seemed to suddenly go into slow motion. I thought 'How am I going to tell my missus? How am I going to tell my mum? I'm about to lose everything"." Instead of taking the test, Nicholson absconded (regarded as serious as a failed test) and set in train the process that ultimately set him

on the path to receiving help. Of footballers responding to The Independent's survey of drug use in British sport, 22 per cent said they had used cannabis, nine per cent ecstasy, seven per cent cocaine and two per cent amphetamines. Of all sports in the survey, football had the highest number of respondents (nine per cent) calling for drugs regulations to be relaxed. "There is too much

list at the age of 18 in the 1984

Olympics, was banned for life

after a second positive test for

cocaine, which is on the IOC

banned list. He had already

ishment by saying his drink concern over recreational partially that footballers are had been spiked - the Football drugs," wrote one player who especially susceptible to drug drugs," wrote one player who had used cannabis and cocaine. "Footballers should only be punished for recreational drug use if under the influence on the field," wrote another.

"We have a drugs testing system regarded as being the most advanced in the world," an FA spokesman said yesterday. Brendon Batson, the deputy chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, said both the PFA and the FA are doing all in their power to combat recreational drug use in football.

Drug awareness programmes are in place in all academies, counselling and rehab are offered to those with problems - around 14 have been treated at clinics in the past three years - and clubs are encouraged to take action to help, rather than punish, those who offend. "There's an attraction [footballers have] to drugs," said Batson. "Young men, money in their pockets. They're in the entertainment business. They've got to be careful who they hang around with."

Shane Nicholson agrees only

especially susceptible to drug and alcohol abuse. "If I was a factory worker I would have done it as well," he said. "In fact if I'd been a factory worker I'd've been dead by now."

Brom, banned for life by the FA (the ban was lifted when Chesterfield offered him a oneyear contract in the summer) and made to undergo mandatory treatment for six weeks at the Marchwood Priory clinic in Hampshire. "That [discipline system] saved me from death," he said. Of the PFA's assistance, which included paying his mortgage while he was in the clinic he said: "I couldn't have

asked for any more help." In the past four years, 26 drugs tests on players have revealed "problem" results. Prominent cases such as Roger Stanislaus's sacking by Leyton Orient for using cocaine, Chris Armstrong's cannabis use when a Crystal Palace player and Lee Bowyer's cannabis use when at Charlton, all in 1995, have been well-publicised.

ically confidential" in nature, problems."

spokesman said no players were involved in formal disciplinary action, but were sent for "clinical assessment". And then there have been the three most high profile cases - Tony Adams, Paul Merson and Paul Gascoigne - none of whom were caught by tests, but all of whose cases demonstrated the effects of succumbing to temptation, whether through pres-He was sacked by West sure or natural inclination.

"Even when I got to the clinic I thought I had no problem," said Nicholson. After being introduced to the 12steps programme, however, he began to confront his probiems. "You blame yourself. My father had died two years before. What would he think of his son being out in a drying-out clinic? It's a mental home basically. What the hell was he going to think of me now?"

Nicholson spent six weeks from April to June in the clinic, finished the course, and is now back in the game, trying to secure a regular place in Chesterfield's squad. "Td like to not be an alcoholic and a drug addict but I am and I'll deal with it," he said. "I can only tell people what's happened to me. I can only say don't be afraid to ask for help. I'm proud of what Others, due to being "med- I've done in dealing with my

Uncertainty leads to embarrassment

ON THE day the Canadian snowboarder Ross Rebagliati regained his Olympic gold medal on appeal after testing positive for cannabis, it was suggested to his team leader, Carol Anne Letheren, that as the rules stood, anyone could compete, even if they were high as a kite. "Under these rules, yes,"

The high-profile farce at the Winter Olympics in Nagano 10 months ago illustrates the widethread uncertainty with which port's governing bodies view drugs normally perceived

Differing punishments for the use of recreational drugs leaves large loopholes. By Mike Rowbottom

The International Olympic imposed on those testing technical sport in which taking Committee subsequently re- positive for cannabis are left to cannabis would have a detrisolved to add cannabis to its list the discretion of individual of banned substances in time sporting federations. for the 2000 Games, something it may be able to announce this weekend as it concludes an annual review of its list regulations, which were found of banned substances and

procedures. Until the list is officially renewed on 31 January next out that the FIS regarded year, however, any sanctions

In Nagano, Rebagliati benefited from a loophole in the International Ski Federation not to have jurisdiction over the new Olympic sport of snowboarding. But Letheren pointed

cent didn't know.

mental effect. In Britain, the Football Association deals with each positive finding for recreational drugs "on its individual merits". The confusion over the issue is mirrored in the findings of The Independent's drug survey. Asked whether competitors found to have taken recre-Rebagliati's slalom event as a ational drugs such as cannabis, served a two-year ban for a first some time to come.

ecstasy or LSD should be offence, during which time h stripped of their titles, opinion had attended rehabilitation. Nobody ever suggested the was split – 45 per cent said yes,

cocaine acted as a performance 52 per cent no and three per enhancer for Harris. In his a The case of Danny Harris, tobiography, Britain's Olympi the former Olympic 400 metres 400m silver medallist Roge hurdler, illustrates some of the Black recalls how the man he n gards as the most talented at anomalies in the stance of governing bodies towards lete he ever trained wit recreational drugs. undermined that talent because of addiction. "Cocaine was no In 1996 Harris, silver medal-

making him a better athlete. was making him worse," he said The use of recreations drugs appears likely to divid opinion in sporting circles fo

Should participa	nts in your sp	ort testin	g postiv
recreational drug	s be stripped	of titles t	hey have
·	Yes	No	Don't Know
Athletics .	40	57 .	3
Cricket	44	56	
Football	46	52	2
Jockeys	70	30	
Rugby League	54	46	
Rugby Union	27	69	4
Swimming	43	52	5
Tennis	50	50	
Weights	· 70	30	
Total .	45 .	52	3

Owners veto logo income

with adverts carried on their

silks. This not only raised

money for owners directly, but

Now that the riders are de-

THE OWNERS of a third of BY GREG WOOD Britain's racehorses are believed to have refused to take part in a new sponsorship scheme, which is due to start in little more than two months' time. In a survey conducted by the British Horseracing Board. which required owners to state their opposition to advertising logos being carried on their jockeys' boots and breeches, almost 1,500 are thought to have registered their disapproval. including some of the most fa-

mous names on the turf. The exact figures will not be published until early next week. but the results of the survey seem sure to cause consider-

ago, Peter Savill, the BHB chairman, said that racing should be "innovative and open to new ideas" in its search for extra revenue. Now, though, it also allowed them to profit appears that many owners are from valuable VAT concessions on the purchase of bloodstock willing to deny the sport an important new source of finance. and their training fees.

The possibility that jockeys might raise money by selling manding sponsorship rights of advertising space on their their own, however, the owners breeches and boots was first are demanding a veto which, alraised several years ago. Only though it will not stop the idea a tiny fraction of riders are in in its tracks, will clearly make the millionaires club with the it much more difficult to sell, likes of Frankie Dettori and Pat and much less valuable to a Eddery, and it was estimated major sponsor. Sheikh Mothat carrying logos on those hammed, who himself called for able embarrassment to the items of clothing which actualgreater funding for racing in a BHB. In his speech to the Gim- ly belong to them could be significant Gimcrack speech

The move was put on hold, owners to have registered dissatisfaction. though, to allow racehorse own-The owners' concerns iners to launch a similar scheme

clude clashes of interest be-

tween the logos on silks and breeches, even though horses sponsored by one company regularly run in and win races bearing the name of a direct competitor without any fuss. Others have complained that the jockeys' sponsor might be distasteful (a condom manufacturer was one particularly ludicrous example). This, though, is simply a slur against the common sense of Michael Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys' Association, who is

trying to secure a sponsorship deal to cover all riders. An unspoken objection is 12 months ago, is among those also, perhaps, the most im-

portant. A significant number will be ready for a fight over the of owners seem to believe that coming weeks and months. they are buying not only a jockeys' services, but the person as well. The idea that riders could make money without their say-so is therefore a trou-

Regardless of the complaints, though, the sponsorship scheme is expected to launch as planned on 1 February next year with two-thirds of riders carrying logos on breeches and boots. To maximise revenue in the long-term, though, the objections of the remaining owners will need to be overridden. Many senior jockeys, including Richard Dunwoody and Tony McCoy, regard 100 per cent coverage for their sponsorship as vital, and they and Caulfield

blesome one.

Ultimately, it is hard to see

how the reluctant owners can continue to resist, since the sites in question belong not to them but to the people they employ, usually on a freelance basis. And while even Peter Savill, himself a leading owner, has seemed lukewarm about the idea, the BHB as a whole has a duty to help secure extra money for racing wherever it can.

One point at least seems clear. If a mixture of flimsy excuses and near-feudal attitudes frustrates a valuable new source of funds for jockeys, the Government ministers who regularly hear Savill pleading for increased support will be

DONCASTER

2.10 Northern Maestro 2.40 Cumbrian Challenge

12.00 Sikander A Azam 12.35 Inn At The Top 3.15 Tessajoe 1.10 Zaralaska 1,40 Boots Madden (nb)

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Left-hand, pear-shaped course.

Course is E of town off the ASS (MIS Jots 3 & 4) Bus link from Doncaster Central State of the State of

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

12.00 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB NOVICE HURDLE (DIV 1) (E) £3,000 2m 110yds £2,532

Prince Baber will have his supporters after an encouraging effort at Warwick; but he would not necessarily have much improvement in him and will have his work out on to beat SIKANDER A AZAM who got it together in style at Aintree.

12.35 BURROUGH HILL LAD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 25.000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £3,834

Santy 1507 1997, Scurds Like fun 6 11 2 J.F. Titley 8-11 fav (Miss H. Knaght) 6 nan FORM VERDICT

INN AT THE TOP has had less than ideal conditions over fences to date and is capable of better Rain is a worry. but he has shown that he can cope with good to soft. No More Hassie, who will be pressed to confirm recent superiority over Grain D'Estruvel, would receive weight from the selection over hurdles.

1.10 SEA PIGEON HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) C4

PORM GUIDE

Dreams End: Former smart hadder, tooked a steadow of tormer self in Grade 2 handcap hardle at Wincanton [2m, good) last month, tailed off behind Grey Shot Effectual: One-paced third behind Real Estate in slowly-run race at Ascot (2m, good to soft) lest month. Won five brines, including two handicaps last season. Seaten when falling at last in handicap hardle won by Grey Shot at Chebrarham (2m, good) last month New Inn: Has won this race for the past two seasons, last year from 10% out of the handicap. Tailed-off behind Lord Richfield at Uttowerer (2m, soft) last month Stiming Edge: Former useful handicap hurdler, was a desappointment fined over fences last term and has not shone in two outings over hurdles this season VERDICT: Zaralaska is on a handly mark if reproducing his best form and New FORM GUIDE

VERDICT: Zaralaska is on a handy mark if reproducing his best form and New him should go well, white Shinlarg Edge and Dream Well have not run up to their best for a long time. EFFECTUAL, from a stable that can do no wrong at present, has put in solid efforts this season and goes well for his claiming jockey.

1.40 NEVILLE CRUMP MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (B) £11,000 3m 2f Pen. Val. £7,272 123-5 MCGREGOR THE THERD (29) (D BP) (Mrs D Wheater) N Richards 2 120 . . . B Ston blech orange stars, orange sterves, black stars 12.P-F CLASS OF NRNETYTWO (23) (D) (Earl Cadogan) H Caly 9 11 8 _____ S Wynne SET. Companie De Pron 6 12 5 P. Befanny 7-1 (Mrs L Taylor) 7 ran

14-1 Class Of Ninetyters

5-7. Decrare De Pern 6 to 5-8 Bedany 7-1 (Mrs. L. Taylor) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Megregor The Third: Cross-country specialist, though no backmarker on conveniental tracks from 3m upwards. As good as ever

Danger Beby: Useful but inconsistent, wan twice in June but looked distant 7th to Cyfor Mata in Marphy's Gold Cup at Chellenham (2m 41 good to soft) last morth Lond Of The West: Pulced-up behind Betty's Boy after an uninspring display at Uttorefer (2m 71, soft) last morth. Father Sky: Best left atons on the basis of two poor efforts this season, modularity of the pulled up behind Solo Gent at Hurbingdon. Doubtful numer (2m 41, soft) last morth. Father Sky: Best left atons on the basis of two poor efforts this season, modularity of the pulled up behind Solo Gent at Hurbingdon. Doubtful numer (2m 41, soft) last morth (2m 20, soft) last morth (2m 20, soft) last morth Cab On Target: Showed his old entitusiasm to take amateurs' handicap at Chellerham in October. Outpaced at Welmethy (2m 41, good) last week (2as of Ninetytwin: Having only his second run for two years when failing at Warwick (3m 21, good to firm) last time. Only runs if there has been overright rain In Truth: Beat Cariboo Gold in Kim Muir at the Cheltenham Festival last season, but locked in need of the race when pulled up at Uttoweter (2m 71, soft) last month Shanagamy: Useful in Ireland last season. Ran respectably for new stable before being brought down at 12th over National lences at Authere (3m 31, good to soft) two weeks ago Eastthorpe: Former useful chaser. Out of form this season, 14 lengths second to Rightsaldired at Folkestone (3m 21, good to soft) two weeks ago Eastthorpe: Former useful chaser. Out of form this season, 14 lengths tourth behind Definities at Taunton (2m, good). Untried over turther than 3m 800th Mouritain Path at Worcester (2m 71, heavy). Needs this trip

VERDICT: In Truth may need another run to put him spot on, and comes from a stable which is having a lean cell at research a conservation of the pre

VERDICT: In Truth may need another run to put him spot on, and comes from a stable which is having a lean spell at present, a comment which does not apply to Cab On Target. Mary Reveley's runners are flying but her veteran may just have seen better days. Boots Madden looks well-handicapped on his early season form, as does CHURCH LAW, who appreciates top of the ground and is in fine form.

2.10 CARBON LINK HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £5,0

| Section | Sect

- 14 declared - 14 declared - 14 declared - 15 declared - 15 declared - 15 declared - 15 declared - 16 declared - FORM VERDICT

Most of these appreciate a sound surface. Blown Wind is the least exposed in the field and came up against a very well treated horse on his reappearance. There should be improvement in him, but preference is for the in-form NORTHERN MAESTRO, who was unjucky not to follow up a recent Warwick win at Bangor. 2.40 VULRORY'S CLOWN LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (B)

£7,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £4,625

FORM VERDICT With Potter's Bay a likely absenter, this is best left to WAYWARD KING, who looks capable of a good deal better than he has shown to date. Galles Cavallians on the downgrade, Cumbrian Challenge out of form and Phillip's Woody Region to find the ground against him.

3.15 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB NOVICE HURDLE (DIV 2) (E) £3,000 2m 110yds £2,511 ONOVICE HURDLE (DIV 2) (E) £3,000 2m 110yds £2,511

E20-1P FOREVER NOBLE (19) (IV) (Ma F C Renter) O Sherwood 5 11 5 R Thombon 2 TESSAJOE (11) (IV) (Riley Partnership) Mass J Carnacho 6 11 5 R Garrilley 3 DONANZA PEAK (F18) (G Oram and J Cesi) W Jarvis 5 10 12 S Durack 6 B ROWN LAD (FR) (20) (T Hammon) Mas H Kright 5 10 12 S Durack 6 B ROWN LAD (FR) (7808) (Mas D Hame) Mas D Haine 5 10 12 M A REQueried 6 P304- GENERAL ASSEMBLY (F141) (The Crafterner) G Mangarson 6 10 12 M Richards 3 D PRAIRE INDIAN (196) (Lady Arms Bertinck) O Bromen 5 10 12 M Richards 8 D RAED (F177) (D C Young) Mas A Swithank 5 10 12 D ROWN (196) (Lady Arms Bertinck) O Bromen 5 10 12 M Brentran 10 D-20 SAHARA REEM (150) (D) (M B N Cements) J Norton 4 10 7 Supple BETTING: 5-4 Tessajoe, 3-1 Brown Lad, 13-2 Forever Robia, General Assembly, 8-1 Raed, 14-1 1997. See Division 1

Although the opposition is by no means negligible. TESSAJOE should return to winning ways following his fine second to Lord Lamb - one of the best novice prospects seen this term - at Newcastle, where he proved he can handle softish ground. Brown Lad, who should improve looks the danger. FORM VERDICT

Super Coin provides best value

BY GREG WOOD

THE MAIN chase of the weekend last week attracted just three runners, and one of the feature events this afternoon has only five, but while the field for the Tommy Whittle Chase at Haydock is small, it could hardly be more perfectly-formed. The last two Grand National winners, Earth Summit and Lord Gyllene, will face the horse who finished second on both occasions, Suny Bay. Add in The Grey Monk, who won this race last year, and it has all the challenging depth of a good cryptic crossword.

The only downside from a punting point of view is that the conditions of the race allow Suny Bay, who on official ratings, at least, is the best steeplechaser in Britain, to set off with just 10st 12lb on his back. Having plodded around Aintree in heavy ground last spring under top weight of 12st, he is unlikely even to notice when Graham Bradley swings into his saddle this afternoon. The Grey Monk, by contrast, must attempt to give him 12lb, while Earth Summit, who beat Suny Bay by 11 lengths in the National, is now 23lb worse off.

It all seems to add up to a straightforward assignment for Suny Bay, although it is a shame that Lord Gyllene, who looked like one of the best National victors for years when he won the race two seasons ago, has not raced since. Suny Bay, interestingly, was giving 3lb to Lord Gyllene that day, but was 13 runners will go to post and beaten by 25 lengths. Suny all but one or two do so with a Bay's achievements since, even chance. allowing for his significant improvement, emphasise what a hours in the sauna in recent remarkable performance Steve days, sweating down to 10st to Brookshaw's chaser produced ride Tamarindo yesterday and

to need the race today, it is im- who is now the 7-2 favourite for possible to recommend a bet on the Welsh National with the Suny Bay at long odds-on. The race's sponsor, Coral, held on

Tamarindo and Tony McCoy lead Belmont King (pink) and Strath Royal on their way to Cheltenham success yesterday Julian Herbert; Allsport watch and savour, while the but McCoy's next square meal ther Stormy Passage or the over this course and distance handicap which closes the card Tripleprint Gold Cup at Chel-

tenham is the one to bet on, as Tony McCoy has spent many

Northern Starlight this after-So remarkable, in fact, that noon. Stage one went accordwhile Lord Gyllene is entitled ing to plan when Tamarindo,

will have to wait as Northern Starlight is set to carry just 11b more today.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Alzoomo (Doncaster 2.10) NB: Blue Kite (Wolverhampton 9.30)

Northern Starlight won the novice chase on this card 12 the Bula Hurdle in particular months ago, so the track and trip hold no worries, but he does challengers to Istabraq when test, with Bosuns Mate (3,40) Tommy Whittle is a race to to win the big chase yesterday, not appear as progressive as ei-

horse he beat at Newbury last in three months' time. time out, Mr Strong Gale. They may all struggle, though, to beat pionship material when win-tial entries. Badge Of Fame is SUPER COIN (nap 2.30), who is three years older than Northern Starlight, but is on a run of it may be that one of hurdling's improvement which took in the most tireless campaigners. Mildmay of Flete Chase at the Dato Star (next best 3.05) will

tenham is typically strong, and vision. brings together some likely for stayers, is also a strong con-

ning a valuable handicap at on a long winning run, but Cheltenham's last meeting but Sadler's Realm (3.15) is pro-Festival here in March and keep his form and fitness long

Grey Shot looked like cham-

which simply refuses to end. enough this year to make a per-The undercard at Chel- manent mark on the timber di-The Bristol Novices' Hurdle,

best meetings of the year. That includes today's card where the French raider Hors La Loi III (1.20) and German challenger Lion King add lustre to the Champion Hurdle is run a narrow pick and so too the the Summit Junior Hurdle.

at Haydock, even though only

five runners remain from 18 ini-

gressive, too, and may just

prieve jump racing from the

executioner's axe for its two

Lingfield has decided to re-

have his measure today.

NOUFARI is weighted to reverse last week's placings with Jaraab and also holds Katle's Cracker and Cry For Freedom on last week's form. He looks a sound her 9.30 LADBROKES FREEPHONE 0800 524 524 HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,000 added 6f

FORM VERDICT

494212 ELLWAY PRINCE (15) (D) Mrs N Macauley 3 9 10 . A Clark 1 V

65 90; BETTING: 4-1 Elhasy Prince, 9-2 Indian Blaze, Theatre Magic, 5-1 Pride Of Bristian, 6-1 Trojan Hero, 7-1 Hillions Executiva, 8-1 Blue Kita, Este

This is wide open, but there is every reason to expect a good run from ELLWAY PRINCE, a speedy sort who has found improvement on Equitack of late, and could easily have an advantage with the rails draw based on last weeks results (wath earlier races for confirmation), inclian Blaze, open to improvement on the surface, could be the biggest danger

John Dunlop's Taipan, Paul Cole's Strategic Choice and Mark Johnston's Fruits Of Love run in the £296,000 Group Two Hong Kong International Vase at Sha Tin tomorrow. John Gosden's Handsome Ridge and Kamil Mahdi's Almushtarak goe for the £319,000 Group Two International Cup. The £296,000 Group Two Bowl has attracted Gosden's Decorated Hero, and Godolphin's Kahal.

WOLVERHAMPTON

7.00 Bint St James 7.30 Daunted 8.00 Falled To Hit 8.30 Naked Oat 9.00 Noufari 9.30 Ellway Prince GOING: Standard

STALLS: Ti - outside; rest - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best

Fibresand, left-hand, oval course.

Course is N of town on A449. Station tm. ADMISSION: Cub

SS; Tattersals 28 (OAP Damond Cub 24); Viewing Restaurant

22990 including entrance and meal. CAR PARK: tree.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEANING TRANSCES. B Mellechant of SSS 2000; M. John

EVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRANSERS: R Holimshaed 7x-685 (10.8%), M Johnston 61-279 (21.9%), J Berry 51-353 (14.4%), P Evens 41-434 (9.3%),

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 68-317 (21.2%), S Sanders 49-388 (12.3%), S Canders 49-388 (12.3%), C Duffield 36-234 (15.4%), G Duffield 36-234 (15.4%), L CANO DUFFIELD (15.4%), C Duffield 36-234 (15.4%), C LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Shaanxi Romance (800) & Sheer Warning (8.30) sent 271 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Laramania (9.00), Black Jet (visored

7.00 FESTIVE FUN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £2,800 added 1m 4f

Count De Money and Salbus make obvious appeal, but pref-erence is for KINGS ASSEMBLY, who did not have the best of runs, and was given plently to do, when fourth on his AW debut here last month. He is weighted to reverse placings with runner-up Noultain, and can score from Count de Money.

7.30 SANTA CLAUS NOVICE STAKES (D) £3,500 added 2YO 1m 100yds

BETTING: evens Daunted, 4-1 Heathyards Jake, 9-2 Gold Honor, 8-1 Miss

FORM VERDICT DAUNTED has taken very well to Equitrack of late and will be very hard to beat if having any aptitude at all for racing on this surface, given the shelry profile of only conceivable dangers. Gold Homor and Heatingards Jake

Take. 12-1 Hot Potato. 14-1 Team Of Three, 20-1 Pertemps Craid

8.00 TURKEY AND TINSEL HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,750 added 1m 1f 79yds

FORM VERDICT Be Wanted is taken to reverse recent course placings with Jay-Dwe-Two, with tonight's longer trip being more likely to lawour him. But he could find one too good in TOTOM, who had his field strong out when winning his Lingfield mauden

8.30 SARAH ARCHIBALD 30TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS MAIDEN (D) £3,500 7f

FORM VERDICT Night Chime must obvously be leared, but is passed over in taxour of NAKED OAT, despite the magnings about the trip. But if he has plently of use made of him this proven Aw performer looks capable of garning an overdue first success.

9.00 CHRISTMAS TREE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 1m 6f 166yds

- 12 declared -BETTING: evens Novieri, 3-1 Jaraeb, 8-1 Robert's Toy, Laramenia, 12-1 Tityboy, Cry For Freedom, 18-1 Madame Chingery, 20-1 others

DONCASTER

Non Vintage 18-1; 3. Know-No-No 25-1. 10 ran. 7-2 fav Monymen (6th). 16. 2/s. (1) Berry. Cockerham). Tote: 0530; 2190, 2510; 2520; 0570 DF: 05350; CSF: 52425. Titrest: 52/23383. 2.45: 1. AMLWCH (B Powell) 13-2; 2. Rockforte 7-4; 3. Machallini 4-5 fav. 4 ran. 1/s. (1) JBerry. Cockerham). Tote: 0580. DF: 2550. CSF: 21629.

230: 1. BACCARAT (L. Wyerl 11-1: 2. Timely Magic 9-1; 3. Abelvino 8-1: 18 ren. 9-4 tev Red Hot Indian (4th), 4. 4. (J. FitzGer-ad), Mainon, Totac (580); 5280, 5240, 5320 DF: \$13350, CSF: \$10045 pot: £2124.60, Quadpot: £204.40. LINGFIELD

11.40: 1. KINGS ARROW (F Wriston) 14-1; 2. Such Boldmess 10-1; 3. Cesties Burn-ing 7-1 14 ran. 5-1 few Jubies Scholar (4th). Nr. 1%. (F Howling). Tota: £20.20; £350, £500, £2.20. DF: £03.80. CSF: £3866. 12.10: 1. PRINCE DANZIG (J P Spencer) 14-1; 2. Mutandis 10-1: 3. Sydneytwot-housand 10-1 13 ran, 5-2 fav Ginzbourg (ath) 11/4, 3 (D Murray Smith) Totac 22.270: 5810, 5350, 5290 DF: 64650 CSF: \$13282 Tricast \$134752 NR: Crebrol 12.40: 1. ANOKATO (L.Carter) 7-2; 2. Almad

14-1; 3. Sweet Magic 11-4 tav 10 ran. 1½; ½. (T Mils). Tote: £530; £200, £350, £120. DF: £2970, CSF: £4453 Tricast: £141£2. Dr. E23.70. CSF: E44.53 Tricest: E14.82
1.10: 1. TRIICKS (W Ryan) 13-8: 2. Western Command 8-11 fax; 3. Woodly Witsome
25-1. 8 ran. 4, 7. (Lord Hurtingdon). Tota:
(240): E10. C130, 2250. DF: E180. CSF: E303
NF: Wild Tring.
1.45: 1. XSYNMA (N Carlisle). 12-1: 2. Polly
Mills 7-2: 3. Northern Svengali 13-2: 8 ran.
3-1 fax Just Wz. (4th). Shr.Ind. hd. (S
Williams). Tota: E1480: 55:137, E200. DF:
E57:20. CSF: E4636: 76:20: E137, E200. DF:
E57:20. CSF: E4636: F6:20: E137, E200. DF:
E57:20. CSF: E4636: E137, E137,

trakent, 20te Power. 2-20: 1. WAASEF (P Fredericks) 13-8 fee; 2. Klika 25-1; 3. Billly Moonshine 14-1, 12 ran. Nk. rik. (Miss Gay Kelleway). Totay 52-40; 5110, 5500, 5450. DF: 28600. CSF: £48.30 Tric-est: \$410.81 NR: Almohad. 255: 1. LYCIAN (I Wilcims) 5-1: 2. Silca Stanka 14-1: 3. Comeoutofitherog 5-1: 10 ran. 5-2 fav. Popton (45h) Ns. 17k, (J. Toker) Rote: 5800: 5240, 5240, 5180, DF -5700 CSF: 562.73. Tricast: 6346.97. NR: Shamwari

SONG.
S.30: 1. THREADNEEDLE (D. Sweeney) 10-1;
2. Barbason 4-1 fav. 3. Ursa Mejor 11-2
10 ran. 1.3'/s. (K. Burte). Tote: \$1300; \$2.80,
\$2.80, \$2.80, \$0.91; \$2.080 \$3.97; \$2.897 Tricset: \$109.25.
Placepot: \$307.30, Quadpot: \$8.20 ast: \$199.25.
Placepot: £30730. Quadpot: £8.20.
Place 6: £220.78. Place 5: £49.61

CHELTENHAM

(5th), 33-1 Aliabad (6th). 6 ran. 21/s, 14, 11, dist, dist. (Winner bay gald-6 ran. 21r. 14, Tt, dist, dist

12.45: (3m 1f 110yds novice chase) SPENDID ______ A Maguire 8-11 fav
 Derrymore Mist _____ J Tazzard 9-4
 Shore Party _____ C Liewellyn 9-2
Also: 66-1 Solshie Beron. Also: 86-1 Bolshie Beron. 4 ram. 8, dist. (Winner bay gelding by Tideno out of Spendapramise, trained by D Nicholson at Temple Gulting for Mrs Stew-art Cetherwood). Tote: £160. DF; £180. CSF;

Also: 4-1 Freelander (4th), 8-1 Grand Gousler, 12-1 Churchstartion (5th), 18-1 General Claremont, 25-1 Galway (6th), 33-1 Barries Str. Blackond, Guard of Honour, 50-1 Durnford Bey, 68-1 The Islander, 13 ran, 11/1, 8, 10, 11/1, 2 (Winner bay gelding by Kris out of Bonne Ile, trained by N Henderson at Lambourt for Anthony Speelman), Tote: £1410; £310, £150, £150. DF: £2740, CSF: £5128, NF; Coble Lane. 1.55; (3m HOvds handicap hurde)

 BRAVE TORNADO ... E Ferton 7-4 fev
 Sweet Glow ... R Greene 14-1
 Ebuillent Equinemed R Kevenegh 15-1 Alec: 5-1 Moorish (4th), Pharenear (5th), 8-1 Amitge (6th), Spanking Yasmin, 18-1 Jazz Track, 20-1 Daraydan, 25-1 Harbour Island, 33-1 Barude Not To.

11 ran. 11/4, 1/2, 11/4, 5, 1/2. (Winner chest-nut getding by Dominion out of Accuracy, trained by G Balding at Fyfield for Mass B Swire). Tota: £300: £140, £420, £330. DF: £3770. CSF: £2504. Tricast: £28938. Total Infacts: £306.50.

Tofecta: £806.30.

Towers. 11-1 Call it A Day (4th), 12-1 Court Melody, 20-1 Cool Dawn, Senor El Betrutt, 25-1 Betrunt Kingdin, 33-1 Yorkshire Gete, 150-1 Firmsy Truth.

12 ran. 11/4, 9, 11, 16, 8 (Winner bay gelding by Galetto out of Reinbow Rambow, transed by M Pipe at Wellington for D A Johnson). Tota: \$410; \$180, \$180, \$240, DF: \$250, CSF: \$1158, Tricast: \$113.88.

3.05: (2m 5t handcap chase) Southampton (5th). 5 ran. 3, 1, dist. dist. (Winner bay galding by Actimum out of Anvil Chorus, trained by T George at Stroud for Mrs G C McFerran). Total £250; £170, £150, DF: £720, CSF:

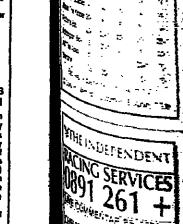
3.40: (2m If handicap hurde)
1. TIUTCHEV A Maguire 5-4 fav
2. Sir Taibot C Liverefiyn 2-1
3. Call My Guest M Williamson 14-1
Also: 11-1 Barne Boy (5th), 12-1 Aerton (8th), Bernaton (4th), 25-1 Yubraine, 33-1
Ch So Risky,
8 ran, 3%, 1%, 11, 13, 3, (Winner bay gelding by Soviet Star out of Cut Ahead, trained

by D Nicholson at Temple Guiting for The Lians Poker Partnershi). Tota: \$2.20; \$1.30, \$1.40, \$2.40. DF; \$2.30, CSF: \$3.97. Tricast: not: £3.368.50. Placepot: £18.10. Quadpot: £11.20. Place 6: £15.47. Place 5: £13.45.

Going: Good (Good to Soft in places) 12.00: 1. SUDEST (B Powel) 12-1; 2. Sha-green 5-1 fay; 3. Ball Strong 7-1 16 ran, 1.4 (I Batcing, Kingsdere) Tota: £1460; £300, £210, £210. DF: £2420. CSF: £58.57. 22:0. £2:0. DF: £2420. CSF: £59.57.
12.30: 1. BROTHER OF IRIS (L Wyer) 7-4
tav; 2. Zaltoon 15-2; 3. Carliske Bandito's
14-1.9 ran. 7. 4. (Mis M Reveley, Salthum).
Tote: £260; £120; £120; £320 DF: £570 CSF:
£1443. NF: The Other Man.
1,00: 1. RIVER FRONTIER (J Cultor); 12-1;
2. Reggle Buck 33-1; 3. Babanina 6-1, 18
ran. 11-2 fav Round Robin 2, 4. (M Lisher,
£288 (Garston); 15ter £1820; \$100; £590; £230.
DF: £5510 CSF: £33814.

Going: Standard

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PUNTERS GUIDE

Dunwoody can take Passage to success

The former top jump jockey Steve Smith Eccles analyses today's Tripleprint Gold Cup

Simply Dashing: The first-right side of the handicap. time visor may do the trick for Represents a stable in form this talented horse, who ran and must be thereabouts. a gallant race behind Cyfor Jibber The Kibber: Has a Malta in the Murphy's Gold Cup last time.

Mulligan: It would take a this enigmatic character, who has jumping problems but is blessed with bags of ability. run, but looks outclassed. Dr Leunt: Ran a creditable Addington Boy: Pulled up on not shown enough spark to get excited about his chance. Bertone: Smallish, workmanlike gelding who rarely runs a bad race, but will no doubt find a few too good. Stormy Passage: Won at Newbury in fine style and boasts excellent credentials, especially in the hands of bigrace pilot Richard Dunwoody. Super Coin: Showed he has lost none of his zest when winning at Ascot. Likes the track

turn of foot but it is doubtful that he will be in a good

Queen Of Spades: Disappointing on her return to the track and surely out of contention here.

pack will not come up trumps.

form and looks to be on the rock solid each-way bet.

DONCASTER 1.10: ZARALASKA, provid-

ing he is none the worse for his tumble last time, will be favoured by the unseasonably fast ground which prevails here and will be hard to beat. Shining Edge may be the one to follow him home.

and has each-way claims.

Potters Bay: A difficult ride

and prone to the odd mistake.

Mr Strong Gale: In excellent

1.40: BOOTS MADDEN, a newal progessive young chaser from a yard with an enviable 3.40: IRISH BANKER, a strike rate, looks poised to exploit his lenient handicap and second in a decent race mark. The speedy Easthorpe on his hurdles debut, is the is interesting from a point of handicapping but the dark suns Mate. horse to watch in the market is Noyan, who looks unexposed following a lay-off and 2.15: KONVEKTA KING ran will be fitter for a recent run.

CHELTENHAM 1.55: MISTER MOROSE be hard to beat on the form of nageera Boy, who won this is chasing debut win here last year and is on the same mark now, is the likeliest algamed at two miles but if invining this longer trip will

Sparta is next best.

2.30:NORTHERN STARLIGHT makes plenty of appeal as a win and place option at a best-priced 8-1. He is well-weighted, a course and sance winner and his Ascot pearance third was a fine effort. Stormy Passage has solid claims but is a shorter price than his form entitles him to be, Mulligan is a pos-

3.05: DATO STAR has some and, on his decisive Newcas- and still on the upgrade.

sible outsider.

enough position to use it. brave man to have a wager on Northern Starlight: Genuine sort who likes to front Dr Leunt: Ran a creditable third to Cyfor Malta in the his reappearance and has Murphy's Gold Cup but does not look good enough to get his head in front.

All The Aces: The joker in the

Conclusion: Richard Dunwoody can claim yet another big race with the progressive STORMY PASSAGE, who looked a class act when winning the Jacky Upton Chase at Newbury. Super Coin can cash in on the prize-money while Simply Dashing looks a

HYPERION'S TV TIPS

tle win, is accorded narrow preference over the progressive Grey Shot and the classy Pridwell in an intriguing re-

smart performer in bumpers likely answer, ahead of Bo-

HAYDOCK

well enough at Wetherby on his return from a lengthy absence to suggest he win a race which is not that competitive will be a skinny price but will for the money on offer. Bar-

suit this formerly useful hur- 2.45: This should be a jumpdler even better. King Of ingexhibition for SUNY BAY, who was rated the Nation's best chaser by the handicapper following his easy win over a top-class field here last month. Grand National winner Earth Summit is the one most likely to follow him

home. 3.15: A contest which looks likely to be fought out between two progressive young hurdlers. Badge Of Fame looks a useful prospect but may be foiled by SADLER'S REALM, partnered very well top-class form to his name by his 5lb claiming jockey

10-YEAR-TAL	ΕO	2	TRI	PL	EPI	RIN	TG	i O 1	D ·	CUP
	1988	89	90	91_	92	93	94	95	96	97
Pate of the favourities:	2	3	Α	1	3/6	9	Р.	Α	_1_	_6_
Alfinner's place in bettin	g: 2	2J	Α	1	0_	0	2	Α	1	
tarting-prices:	7-2	4-1	Α	7-4	11-2	14-1	10-3	A	7-4	9-1
Winners' weights:	10.13	10,4	Α	1110	11,4	10.2	102	Α	11.10	11.5
Winners' ages:	7	9	Α	8	9	9	8	A	8	8
Profit or loss to £1 stak									E3.33	
Percentage of winners	placed	191,	2nd	or 3rd	in la	st rac	e: 889	6		
Shortest-priced winners	: King	a Fou	ntain	(1991)	Addi	ngton	Boy (1	996)	7-4	
Longest-priced winner: Fragrant Dawn (1993) 14-1										
Top trainers: T Forster - G Richards	Peaw	el Ba	y (19i	38), Di	ablin F	iyer (i don B	1994) Ov (191	963		
G HICTERIOS	- 0=	101	··· 7 11							

SADUL OL 1088 ED F.I. REPRES: LEGACITATES -7	
Percentage of winners placed 1st, 2nd	or 3rd in last race: 88%
Shortest-priced winners: Kings Fountain	(1991), Addington Boy (1996) 7-4
Longest-priced winner, Fragrant Dawn (
Top trainers: T Forster - Pegwell Bay (19 G Richards - Clever Folly (1	188), Dublin Flyer (1994)
Top jockey: B Powell - Pegwell Bay (198	a), Dublin Flyer (1994)
FIRST	SHOW
FIRST	311010
CHELTENHAM 2.30	CHELTENHAM 3.05
c H L S T	H L S
Skerne Pressage 3-1 11-4 11-4 11-4 11-4	Dato Star 2-1 7-4 2-1

CHEL	TE	HN H	M.A	2.30		CHELT	EN	HAH	3.0	5
•	c	Н	L	s	T	1	H	L	S	
Skorny Passage		11-1	11-4	11-4	11-4	Dato Star	2-1	7-4	2-1	1
Seper Coin	9-2	5-1	5-1	5-1	92	Grey Shot	94	94	2-1	-
Peoply Desking	5-1	11-2	5-1	11-2	B-1	Prichagal	52	52	11-4	1
Mr Stroop Gale	13-2	61	13-2	11-2	7-1	Reliked	9-1	9-1	8-1	31
		81	7:1	8-1	8-1	Michighi Legend	12-1	14-1	12-1	
Horbers Starlight				10-1	91	Kesmei	14-1	18-7	20-1	1
Dr Leaset	10-1	<u>91</u>	10-1			Each-way, a q	come for	endik n	Acres 1.2	,
Meligen	16-1	14-1	18-1	16-1	14-1					
Cores Of Species	14-1	141	16-1	14-1	14-1	C Corel, H William H	L L20	ALCOHOL:	, 300 m).	
John The Kither	20 I	16-1	16-1	15-1	14-1					

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ALL COURSES RESULTS

<u>0891 261 970</u>

Calls cold 50p per private, T.L.S. Ltd., Scratton St &C2A 49

CONCASTER

INCFIELD

	DONCA	CTE	:0 1		
Magton Boy 25-1 33-1 25-1 25-1 33-1	DONCA	316			
The Aces 18-1 20-1 22-1 33-1 20-1	l	C	<u>H</u>	<u>L</u>	_
dame 28-1 33-1 26-1 25-1 25-1	Boots Mackies	9-2	4-1	41	
Exchange a quader the odds, places 1, 2, 3	McGregor The Third	5-1	9-2	41	11
Cost H Willem Hill L Ladbokes, S Stanley, T Total	Cab On Target	13-2	6-1	51	- 5
	in Truth	13-2	8 -1	7-1	6
	Charth Law	9-1	P-1	8-1	9
	Lord Of The West	13:2	B-1	8-1	9
ETHE INDEPENDENT	Danger Baby	12-1	11-1	14-1	1
	Esshorpe	14-1	14-1	14-1	14
ACING SERVICES	Hoven	16-1	14-1	21	14
	Statesarry	11-1	8-1	14-1	10
1891 261 +	Class Of Kinetybro	8-1	16-1	14-1	12
VE COMMENTARIES RESULTS	Fether Sky	d)	da	dot	d
VE COMMENIARIES RESERVE	Each stay, a quarter	the oct	ts place	es 1, 2,	<u> </u>
IELTENHAM 971 981	C Cool H William		dode	s TTole	ı
	1				_

The Tota bet on the 3.15 at Haydock: 11-4 Sadier's Realm, 3-1 Badge Of Fame, 7-2 Line Of Conquest, 9-2 Robbo, 13-2 Campaign, 15-2 Churchtown Glen. Each-way a quarter the odds, places 1, 2

DONCASTER 1.40

CHELTENHAM

HYPERION

12.45 Zafarabad 2.30 NORTHERN STARLIGHT (nap) 1.20 Ashwell Boy 3.05 Dato Star 1.55 Mister Morose 3.40 Irish Banker

GOING: Good Left-hand, gailoging course with stiff lences. Uphil run-in of 240yd. Tourse is thin N of town of I A33. Bus fin't from Chebrothem station (served by Bristol, Birmingham and London, Paddington) 2m. ADMISSION: Chib & Tanersalis Ct5 (jumors 16-24 years, £8), Courage Enclosure £5. CAR PARK; Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS ■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 40 winners from 262 numbers (success rate 153%).

D Nicholson 28-296 (14.3%). N Twiston-Davies 21-202 (104%) J Gifford 16-116

[138%], Mrs J Pitmen 15-69 (21.7%)). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 39 wms from 150 ridesisuccess rate 26%), N illiamson 33-154 (214%), R Durwoody 32-191 (168%), J Osborne 25-120 (208%). M A Fitzgerald 18-145 (124%) FAVOURITES: 202 wins in 501 races (403%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Simply Dashing (visored, 230).

12.45 LONESOME GLORY INTERMEDIATE HURDLE SPORT OF KINGS CHALLENGE (B) \$15,000 2m 4f \$10,260

- 6 declared -BETTING: 13-8 Rainbow Frontier, 2-1 Zefambad, 3-1 Lady Rebecca, 7-1 Petersen House, 33-1 others

1997 Daraydan 5 ti 4 A P McCoy 2-1 (M Pipe) 4 ran FORM VERDICT

A tesonating contest in which testics look sure to play a major pert. Zafarabad has plen-ty of ability but it was very disappointing to see him under pressure so early on at New-bury last time and it would be no surprise to see RAINBOW FRONTIER lack on coming down the hall and poach an unassallable lead under Tony McCoy He was of smilar ability to Zalarabad last season and his two good runs on the Flat over the summer suggest he

1.20 GEORGE STEVENS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £7,927

num weight, 10st. True handicap weight, Nashville Stor 7st 138s. BETTING: 5-4 Flying Instructor, 15-8 Or Royal, 5-2 Ashwell Boy, 20-1 Nashville Star 1997 Kibreet 1) 10-13 R Dunwoody 7-2 (P Hobbs) 4 ran

FORM VERDICT With its and buts about all four runners, the satest selection tools, to be FLYING INSTRUCTOR Paul Webber's horses are running really well at the moment and he is capable of having them ready to win first time (General Pongo looked better than ever at Chepstow tast week) Or Royal is clearly the most talented of the runners but is hard to win with these days.

	1	.55	DOUBLEPRINT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £6,910
	1	133m	KING OF SPARTA (9) (0) (Mrs R Tice) J Portman 5 12 0
	5	106/11	MUSTER MOROSE (27) (C) (D) (Mrs.J. Mould) N Tireton-Davies 8 t2 0 C Liewellym emarated green, white starts, emerated green cap, white start
	3	00-P11	SCOTIA NOSTRA (16) (D) (Out The Box Racing) J.J. (Theil 6 to 10
	4	-11112	VILLAGE KING (15) (CD) (BF) (E J E-Heathcole) P Hobbs 5 11 10R Durnwoody light blue, scarlet collar, such and steeves, check cap
	5	P0-005	DUNNICKS TOWN (11) (F Tucker) F Tucker 6 ft 6 S Burrough orange, brown hoop, brown sleeves, arange armies; brown cap
ı			- 5 declared -
	RET	TIME: ALS	Mictor Morroe 11-4 King Of Sports 7-2 Williams King R-1 Sports Noctra 50-1 Dun.

1997: Northern Starlight 6 tt 10 A P McCoy 7-4 (M Pipe) 3 ran

HAYDOCK

HYPERION

GUINE: Sort.

II Left-hand course with imposing drop tences and run-in of two furlongs.

II Course is near junction of AS80 and M8. Newton station 2m. ADMISSION: County Stand £17: Tattersalis £10; Newton Stand £5 (OAPs half-pince in Tattersalis and New-

Stand CT?: Tattersals Ct0; Newton Stand C5 (OAPs half-once in Tattersals and Newton Stand). CAR PARK: Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 33-11 (224%). N Twiston-Davies 19-78 (25.7%). D Nicholson 12-59 (20.3%). Mrs M Reveley 11-65 165%), J FitzGerald 9-45 (20%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 20-70 (286%), C Llewellyn 13-55 (236%), C Maude 11-45 (44.4%). A Maguire 11-46 (23.9%). P Niven 10-85 (15.4%).

EAVOURITES: 18-308 (38.3%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Robbo (3.15).

12.40 SALTERS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m Penaity Value £2,232

- 5 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Eponine, 5-2 Eben Al Hobeeb, 7-2 Marigilano, 5-1 Mias Pennyhill, 8-1 Norman Con-

FORM VERDICT

A poor opener with question marks against all five. Today's conditions should at least suff EBEN AL HABEES and he looks a more reliable son than Marigillano or Norman Conquest. Eponline has no easy task under top weight, but if she progresses for her recent comeback run she will not be far away.

1.15 STANLEY CASINOS CHRISTMAS CRACKER NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m Penalty Value £2,871

- 9 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Subtle Influence, 3-1 Orsuno, 7-2 Go Britannie, 8-1 Gelindo, 10-1 Evenin All, Lawahik,

FORM VERDICT

No great strength in depth to this notice hundle. Subtite influence is expected to confirm Huntingdon superiority over the unreliable Go Britannia, but may not find it easy to give 6th to two other decent ex-Rist performers. Lewahite and ORSUNO. Preference is for the isst-manufact, who was Group-placed in the much in Germany and whose stable won with an-other useful performer from the Rist at Ayr on Monday.

1.45 MTB GROUP HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,500 added 2m 7f 110yds Penalty Value £3,896

997: Alke International 5 to 1 X Azpuru 15-8 pt tay (Mrs P Townsley) 4 ran

2.15 Konvecta King

3.15 Sadler's Realm

2.45 Suny Bay

12.40 Marigliano

1.45 Smith Two

1.15 Subtle Influence

FORM GUIDE

King Of Sparts: Has his quirks but 9000 with record and in spienced form Particularly good effort to dety top weight at Wincanton last month (form working out well).

Mister Morose: Translated good fundes form to tences at first attempt here last time to beat two subsequent winners, headed by Dines. Form pick and extra 5f will suit Scotia Nostra: Fairly useful hunder who has won both chase starts, both at around this trip last time from Manshaur at Carlisle. More needed to win this Village King: Has taken well to ferices, completing four-timer over course and districe in October 3m possibly tog lar test time and should hun to best this time

Dunnicks Town: Form & very poor and has no concervable chance VERDICT: MISTER MOROSE was the best of these by some way over hurdes and to judge form has good win here on his chasing debut (franked last week by Dines) he will be every bit as good over fences. He jumped soundly there, will appreciat this longer trip and, a clear round parmetting, is much the likeliest witner, ehead of

2	.30	TRIPLEPRINT GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 3) (A) £75,000 added 2m 5f £47,144
	-	
1	-57-22	SMIPLY DASHING (28) (D) (S Hammond) T Easterby 7 11 13 L Wyter V
		red. white seah, emerald green aleawes, white armicas, emerald green cap
2	₩J.	MULLIGAN (241) (D) (Lady Hans) D Nicholson 8 11 6
		mauve and yellow check, yellow sloeves
3	5(2-2	ADDINGTON BOY (14) (CD) (Got Foods Ltd) N Richards 10 ft 4 A Doctor
-		red and white diamonas, rough blue steenes, rough blue cap, red diamond
4	4.0395	BERTONE (21) (CD) (Mrs H J Outley) K Baley 9 11 2
•	4427	
		green and red (quartered), yellow steeres, red cap
5	2112-1	STORMY PASSAGE (15) (D) (P Luft) P Hobbs B 10 12
		light blue, black saich, armless and hoop on cap
6	1113-1	SUPER COIN (22) (CO) (G Brodes) R Lee 10 10 12
		oranne, broe bots green soots, licht green sleeves, grange soots
7	1P20-4	POTTER'S BAY (21) (CD) (this JE Potter) D Nicholson 9 to 5 R Johnson
		when, red braces, emerging green and whate check steemes, whate cap, red star
8		MR STRONG GALE (15) (D) (BF) (R Sibly) P Nichols 7 to 3 J Tazzard B
-		in green, black scale, dark green steeres, red armiets, black and red icheck cap
9		JIBBER THE KUBBER (15) (D) (J Highing) Mrs J Peman 9 10 2 D Leafw
•		red. arev cross of formers, sleeves and caso
10	2172.2	MORTHERN STARLIGHT (21) (CD) (A South) M Pps 7 to 1 A P McCov
•	202.3	
_	~-~	mo, whose cocas, sherves and spots on cap
П	ಎ-ಟ	DR LEUNT (28) (P Emery) P Hobbs 7 10 0 R Farrent
_		yeshow, clark blue stripe, clark blue sleaves, yellipin armiess, white cap
12	365₽	OLIEEN OF SPADES (28) (C) (Mrs R Yaughan) N Twiston-Davies 8 to 0 C Licensign
		red, emorald green star, holioped aleeses, red osp, emerald green star
13	.20-€	ALL THE ACES (12) (D) (J P Moléanus) J J C'Neil 11 10 0 R McGrath
		emerald green, yellow hoops, white cap
		~ 13 declared ~
	_	

Nummurt 10st. True handscap weights, Dr Leurs 9st 13th, Queen Of Steades 9st 11th, 47 The Aces 9st 8th BEITTING: 11-4 Stormy Passage, 5-1 Super Coln, 11-2 Simply Dashing, 13-2 Mr Strong Gale, B-1 Northern Starlight, 10-1 Dr Leum, 14-1 Queen Of Spades, 16-1 Jibber The Kibber, Mulfi-gan, 20-1 All The Aces, 25-1 Addington Boy, Potter's Bay, 28-1 Bertone 1997 Senor El Betrutt 8 11 5 & Braziley 9-1 (Mrs S Nock) 3 ran

FORM GUIDE

Simply Dashing: Classy chaset, back to very best with strong-finishing second to Cytor Malta in Murphy's Gold Cup here last month. Claims in first-time visor Mulligan: Formerly very smart novice whose jumping let him down last season. First run since hurdles third in April but possible outsider oil pretty fair mark as he has reportedly schooled adequately Addington Boy: Won this in 1996 and decent ground will suit. Hasn't shown best for

long time and pulled up in Hennessy on seasonal debut (ground too soft) Bertone: Has been dropped 7to since pulled up in Murphy's Gold Cup and fair secand to Edredon Bleu at Huntingdon since Suited by good or faster Stormy Passage: Consistent chaser who was cosy three-length winner from Mr Strong Gale on reappearance at Newbury, Should go well off 7to higher mark Super Coin: Has hit rich vein of form over last year and respected even if having markedly stifler task than when winning at Ascot last Lime from Big Matt (up 5lb) Potter's Bay: Twice a winner on this course but generally struggles at this level. Adequate run when fourth to Edredon Bleu at Huntingdon but much more needed now Mr Strong Gale: Progressive and consistent chaser but 3to pull doesn't look quite enough to reverse recent three-length Newbury deleat by Stormy Passage Libber The Kibber: Usually does his winning at slightly lower level and no obvious reason why he should reverse 16-length Newbury defeat by Stormy Passage Northern Startight: Profife winner who was good novice last season, is fairly weighted and who was good third to Red Marauder at Ascot when facing stiff task Dr Leunit: Useful hundler/chaser but was seven length behind Simply Dasing when good third in Murphy's Gold Cup and is only 1to better off. Usually goes well here Queen Of Spedes: Capable novce last season, running well when sixth in Aride. Fairly weighted but poor run in Murphy's Gold Cup is off-putting

All The Aces; Into veteran stage now but good second to Feels Like Gold on sea sonal debut at Kelso. Three-furlong shorter trip and 8b out of handicap this time

- 6 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Bankhead, 11-4 Palace Of Gold, Smith Too, 5-1 Native Field, 16-1 King Girseach,

2	.15	TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,500 added 2m Penalty Value £7,016
1	10103/	MORCEJ (756) (C) (D) (Hon Mrs J M Corbett) J H Johnson 10 r2 0
2	mP/3	KONVEKTA KING (25) (CD) (Norwelds Ltd) O Sherwood 10 10 11 P Niven first blue, white sest, helved sleeves, white cap, forth blue star
3		MR CONDUCTOR (27) (D) (P M De Wilde) R Ainer 7 (0 5
4		BARNAGEERA BOY (21) (CD) (Mrs C S Wilson) W Jenks 9 10 3 T Jenks dark green, yellow spots, yellow steeves, dark green spots, yellow cap
5		CROSSHOT (14) (D) (R McDonald) R McDonald 11 10 0
6		MOSS PAGEANT (11) (D) (Mrs F Watton) F Watton 8 10 0
7	P-PPPP	MONAUGHTY MAN (7) (Mrs K Woodhead) & Coarle 12 10 0
		~ (USANO -

FORM GUIDE

Moreell: Former smart novice and exiberant jumper. Well weighted on old form and possibilities if straight enough for this first run since November 1996. Is reportedly a possible for the King George Vi Chase Konvekta King: Useful course and distance winner who was very respectable third to Tom Brodie and subsequent winner Dr. Bones on recent return from 20 months of track. Good chance of the lower mark.

Mr. Conductor: Gradually progressive and though 7to higher than when 17-length winner of weaker race at Towcester last time, is much respected. Likes good ground Barnageers Boy: Would have fire chance on form of his win in this last year off same mark but below best in both runs this term., 24-length Aintree third fast time. Crosshot: Possibilities on very best form though 10th higher than for Wetherby win in spring. More worrying is pulled up seasonal debut run at Newcastle. Migos Pageant: Decisive Newcastle winner last time but 28th out of the handicap Mionaughthy Man: Poor form and no-hoper from nearly 4st out of weights.

VERDICT: This is not a strong race so MORCELL well weighted on his old form.

AUCHAUGHTY MARIE POOR form and rechapter from nearly wo could warpline or VERDICT: This is not a strong race so MORCELL well weighted on his old form, may well be worth chancing despite his lengthy absence. He is a possible for the King George on Bosing Day so presumably must be somewhere near ready for this. On more recent evidence, Konvekta King is entitled to go well.

2	.45	TOMMY WHITTLE CHASE (Grade 2) (CLASS A) £40,000 added 3rn Penalty Value £25,240
1		THE GREY MONK (24) (CD) (Alexair Duff) N Richards 10 ft 10
2	1651-1	EARTH SUMMIT (21) (CD) (Summit Partnership) N Twister-Davies 10 (0 12 T Junits) black, vellow seems and sleaves, quartered cap
3	TT21/	LORD GYLLENE (NZ) (614) (D) (S W Carte) S Brookshaw 10 10 12
4	5046BP	CURXALL CROSSETT (32) (Mrs. K Woodhead) E Ceine 13 10 12 Gary Lyons white, myst blue spots, purple steems and cap
5	1452-1	SUNY BAY (24) (CD) (Uptands Bloodstock) S Sherwood 9 10 12
		- 5 declared -
BET	TING: 4-7	Surry Bay, 7-2 Earth Summit, 7-1 The Gray Mont, Lord Gyllene, 250-1 Quitali Crosse

in the betting, MULLIGAN, fairly weighted on his good novice form and who showed he stays this trip when winning over it at Newbury last season (over hurdles) is a plausible outsider. Northern Startight is another with solid claims.

VERDICT: Stermy Passage has an obvious chance but is plenty short enough

3.05 BONUSPRINT BULA HURDLE (Grade 2) (A) £35,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £21,665 2/30-1 DATO STAR (14) (D) (K Riley/Mrs M Guttire /J Donald) J M Jetterson 7 ti 5 . 1 Wyes yellow, emeating men sar and sar on sep yellow, emeating men sar and sar on sep 22034 KERAMI (22) (D) (BF) (M Ancher & Mas J Broadhurst) N Filtones 5 Ti & C Lienwellym

white brown steeres and cap

121-11 GREY SHOT (27) (CD) (Fil Histories) | Bailding 6 in 0 _______ J Ostrome

GRET SHOT (27) (NO) IN Thomas I house you in the Cap, change star Both blue and crange diamonds, light blue steeres, light blue Cap, change star MEXISTRET LEGEND (14) (D) (No H.J. Clarke) D Nicholson 7 m. 9 R Johnson black and white corpes, emerald green and white styled sterves.

– 5 declared –

BETTING: 7-4 Date Star, 9-4 Grey Shot, 11-4 Pridsest, 9-1 Rethret, 12-1 Midnight Legend, 16-1 Kenson

397. Refigeat B 11 O R Johnson 8-1 (D Nichotson) 8 ran

FORM GUIDE

Dato Star: Very useful hurder who was back to form of last season's Haydock win with last time out deleast of French Holly at Chellenham. Suried by soft ground Kerawit: Little to find even on very best form, such as Champson Hurdle fifth in March. Has been below his best in two tries at further this term, lest time ochand Juyush Pridwell: Prolific winner and more reliable last season, fine fourth in Champion Hurde and conqueror of Istabrag on desperate ground at Antree in last two runs. Good chance if able to resume in that sort of form this season. leikeel: Good win record and beat Phowell (8th better off) one and three-quarter

lengths in this tast year. Below that form three times after Little bit to find Grey Shot: Formerly very useful Flat stayer who has bettered last seasons novice form in two wins this term, last time in handicap off mark of 136 from Tyrolean Dream

here Progressing and only has a little to find Midnight Lagend: Formerly useful novice who returned from spell at stud to finish respectable 13-length third to Dato Star at Newcastle last time (same terms here) VERDICT: GREY SHOT is progressing well over hundles now and with an 8to weight concession from the classy pair Dato Star and Pridwell, this former Group-class Flar clayer may be up making the small step up on his last time our form to win this high-

3.40 BRISTOL NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 2) (CLASS A) £15,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £9,375 LC-11 RADIATION (21) (D) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) J.J. O'Neil 5 11 4 R McGrath yellow, marcon cherron and sleeves, marcon and ownge quantered can 0-45(2) DAVENPORT BANGUET (19) (Mrs. J. Rysn) R. OLEGY: 11 0 black, yellow otherwars, yellow sleeves, black armeds, white cap
3-22 GENTLE RINAGE (24) (BF) (G and D keeys) N Twiston-Doves 4 to 0 N Williamson derit blue, marroon epaulies, and anniess no-2 (RISH BANKER (17) (BF) (D Jenks) M Poe 7 ft () brown, park seams and cap

— 6 declared —

BETTING: 15-8 Irish Banker, 3-1 Gentle Rivage, 4-1 Bosuns Mate, 9-2 Radiation, 8-1 Bivestigan

Davemport Banquet 1997 Lord Jim 5 ft 4 M A Fitzgerald 9-1 (J Old) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

Radiation: Has won both starts over hurdles, at Nelso and then from subsequent tiop. Northern Motto at Aintree. Appreciably stiffer task this time.

sen: Chapstow winner but would have finished behind Bosuns Mate on same track but for unseating, next time. Good second last time but needs to improve now Bosums Marter Stepped up on wanning bumper form when second to useful Calling Wald on hurdles debut at Chepstow. Should be better for that run inport Banquet: Bumper winner who has shown some ability over hurdles, last time second to Native Recruit (beaten since) at Lucilow Needs to improve

Gentle Rivage: Wide margin bumper winner from subsequent winner and then sec-ond to Storm Of Gold on hurdes debut, both at Haydock, Looks stable second string Irish Banker: Course winner in bumper on debut and fine third in well-contested Chep-stow bumper after (first, second and fourth all good hurdles winners after). Good secand to useful Rio's King in decent Chepslow (2m4f) race on recent hurdles debut VERDICT: This looks to be between the two good recruits from bumpers, in IRISH

BANKER and Bosums Mate, both of whom showed plenty of promise on their hurding debuts. Insh Banker's overall form looks slightly more solid so he is preferred.

20-1 Ealing Court 1997 Splendid Thyne 5 11 8 W Marston 9-4 tov (T Casey) 9 ran FORM VERDICT

Only six numers and two of them with plenty to prove, but this should still be run at a fair pace with the litter numers Smith Too and Bankhead in opposition. A good gailop will sut PALACE OF GOLD and he can make the most of the 7to he gets from Native Field.

2.	15	TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,500 BBC1 added 2m Penalty Value £7,016
	10103/	MORCELI (756) (C) (D) (Hon (As J M Corbett) J H Johnson 10 12 0G Bradley royal blue, silver striped sleeves, blue and red hoosed can
!	mP/3	KONVEKTA KBNG (25) (CD) (Nonvekra Lkt) C Sherwood 10 10 ft
•	31-2F1	MR CONDUCTOR (27) (D) (P M De Wilde) il Alner 7 (0 5 R Wildger (5) Drik, Drik and white quartered (20)
	022-43	BARNAGEERA BOY (21) (CD) (Mrs C S Wison) W Jenis 9 10 3 T Jenis dark green, yellow spots, yellow steeves, dark green spots, yellow spots
	3211-P	CROSSHOT (14) (D) (R McDonald) R McDonald 11 to 0
i	3-3P41	MOSS PAGEANT (11) (D) Mrs F Walton) F Walton 8 10 0
'	p-bbbb	MONAUGHTY MAN (7) (Mrs K Woodhead) E Came 12 to 0
		-7 declared -
in in	100 TO	True harriesen venetite: Consultat 9st 11th, Mass Paneerit Ret, Maneuritte Man 6st 1th

warmten: 1922. Hits handcap weights: Crosshol 9st 11th, Moss Pageert 8st, Moneughty Men 6st 10: BETTING: 5-2 Mr Conductor, 3-1 Konvetts King, 4-1 Bernageera Boy, 5-1 Moncell, 10-1 Crosshot, 14-1 Moss Pageent, 20-1 Monaughty Man 1997. Barnageera Boy 8 10 3 T Jenia 4-1 (W Janks) 5 ron FORM GUIDE

The Grey Monic Top front-running classes who loves Haydock and took this race last year. Looked in need of run when beaten 27 lengths by Suny Bay here (3m. good to soft) on reappearance last month

12.50 ARENA DECEMBER NOVICE CHASE (Gr. 2) (A) £18,500 3m

Earth Summit: Last year's Grand National winner (beating Suny Bay) looked better than ever when winning the Becher Chase at Aintree 3m 3t good to soft) on his reap-Lord Gyllene: 1997 Grand National winner (beat Staty Bay) missed last season through

mury. He is reportedly in good heart but has not run since his National victory and generally needs a run to bring him on Quiticall Crossett: A poor maiden chaser who was tailed-off at Sedgefield last time Surry Bay: The top-rated chaser in the country, looked as good as ever for his new

trainer when comfortably beating a crack field in a Grade 3 Handicap chase over track being thrown-in with 10st 12th, and he is impossible to oppose He was beaten 11 lengths by Earth Summit in the Grand National after making a heroic effort to wir, under 12 stone last April, but conditions are very different locky. The ground, weights and distance at tayour Suny Bay, atthough Earth Summit made a line return at Amtree and

reappearance of the other Grand National winner, Lord Gyllene, should be watched 3.15 TOTE PLACEPOT HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 2m 4f Pen Value £6,671 3111-1 BADGE OF FAME (18) (D) (John Lawson-Brown) K Bailey 4 11 10 Mr. R Formstal (7) yellow, black cross of longing, emerald green sleeves, and can

royal blue, white seems, armiets and cap brown, vellow sleaves, brown armists, ouartered can 3-1301 CHURCHTOWN GLEN (14) (C) (J & C Tipton) S Brookshaw 5 t) 4 . . . W Marston yellow, purpie hoops, purpie cleeves - 6 declared -

BETTING: 11-4 Sadier's Reakn, 3-1 Badge Of Fame, 7-2 Line Of Conquest, 9-2 Robbo, 13-2 Campaign, 18-2 Churchtown Glen

Thrower 6 9 9 X Azpuru (5) 10-1 (S Brookshaw) B ran

FORM GUIDE

Badge Of Fame: Talented performer on the flat and progressive hurdler, won three times last season. Easy 4 length winner over Martin Pipes Deymar at Worcester (2m 4f, heavy) tast month gn: Much improved hundler last term but down the field in a valuable handcap at Chepstow (2m 4f, good to soft) last month. Carries 9th more than when sec-

ond in this race lest year Sadier's Regim: improving hurdler who has been raised 8th following an easy win at Chepstow (2m 41, good), beating World Express by 11/2 lengths (the pair pulled 13 lengths clear) last week. May be good enough to tollow up Robbo: Fair stayer on the flat and useful hundler, ran very well in the Triumph at Cheltenham. Weakened at the death when 31/2 lengths third behind Sleepy River at Kelso

(2m 6), heavy) test month. Stable on fire at present and cannot be discounted Line Of Conquest: Useful handicapper for Ron Hodges last season, made a promising start for his new stable fast month when 7 lengths fourth to Bold Gait (2m. good) after making most of the running

Churchtown Glen: Makes a quick reappearance after winning here last week over 2f further and on heavy ground. He was enterprisingly ridden by Warren Marston, sent on at the home turn to prevail by 5 lengths over Supreme Lady

VERDICT: Line Of Conquest looks likely to artempt to make-all at a track which suits front-numers, but may be done for speed by a pair of progressive hurders. Badge Of Fame, from the stable which took this race last year is in good form and on the upgrade, as is SADLER'S REALM, who gets the nod on the strength of his easy Chep-

LINGFIELD

16-1 Military Law, 25-1 othera 1997: French Holly 6 11 6 A Thomson 8-11 lav (F Murphy) 16 ran

HYPERION 12.15 Mister Rm 12.50 Lord Of The River 1.20 Hors La Lol III 1.50 Stay Lucky 2.20 Barneys Bell 2.55 Kadou Nonantais 3.30 Bessie Black GOING: Soft (Heavy in places on hundles course).

Left-hand, sharp undulating course. Run-in of 200yds.

Course is SE of town on 82028. Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club £13, Family Enclosure £10. CAR PARK: Club £3; remainder free.

by Enclosure CO. CAR PARK: Club C3: remainder free.
FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS
LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 12-49 (245%), G L Moore 10-41
(244%), N Twiston-Device 8-35 (228%), J Gifford 7-34 (205%).
LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dustwoody 10-33 (303%), A P McCoy
10-47 (244%), N Williamson 6-42 (143%), A Maguire 5-22 (227%).
FAVOURITES: 114-258 (442%)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Sun Suru (220).

12.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP SKY

FORM VERDICT

and might need the headgear back on

1 LION KING (75) (2) C Von Der Reobe (Ger) 10 · 2 · Li Maude
6 REDEMPTION (15) N Testion-Davies 10 · 2 · J Geldsteid
7 TAICE A TURN (F3) (0) Mes G Kellsway 10 · 2 · A Thornton
7 TEMERAPRE (USA) (F21) R Ingram 10 · 12 · L Ampel
8 232 WAVE ROCK (26) (87) Mes H Kreight 10 · 2 · L Quernites
8 13 MOTHERS HELP (15) (0) D Williams 10 · 7 · ... R Wakley
— 9 declared —
BETTING: 5-2 Hors Le Loi Ri, 3-1 Taker A Turn, 6-1 Lion King, Mothers
Help, 10-1 Tenternire, Wave Rock, 12-1 Redemption, 14-1 others

See Enough, 20-1 Welsh Harvest

FORM VERDICT

This race is Boaly to be a true test and that will suit IVY BOY, who

comes here with his confidence sky-high. Lord Of The River is a high-class prospect but there is the worry about whether the Worces-

ter fall will have dented his confidence. A slog through the much might

1.20 TJH SUMMIT JUNIOR HURDLE SKY (Gr2) (A) £14,000 3YO 2m 110yds

BETTING: 5-2 Mim-Lou-And, 3-1 Siren Song, 7-2 Minter Rm, 11-2 Sher-Minuit, 6-1 Tickerty's Gift, 12-1 Foreign Rule Mister Rm would have appealed on better ground but as it is it might be worth chancing FOREIGN RULE on this suitable ground. He is well handcapped and may have enough scope for improvement to see off Tickerty's Gift, who did not please averyone last time The foreign rations are impossible to assess accurately but such is Francois Dournen's record in Britain that HORS LA LOT III can be selected with a measure of confidence. The home-trained run-ners are hard to superate and German-trained Lion King is leared

1.50 LINGFIELD PARK LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 3m

BETTING: 9-4 Druid's Brook, 5-2 River Lossie, 4-1 Oban, 6-1 Stey Lucky. 9-1 Symbol Of Success, 10-1 St Mellion Fairney FORM VERDICT RIVER LOSSIE clearly retains plemy of ability and the 11-7 celling on the weights will be in his favour. Druid's Brook is the one

	2.20	MATH NOVIC	S PARTIN ZE HURC	ERSHIP XLE (E) £	& GREEN 2,900 2m	RIDGE I	A
1	3/00-	AMOTHER	ANBO 215	R Baker 5 1	0 12	G Sheakin	(6J
2						12 C May	
3						SF	
4	000-	GAZINEPE	R (NZ) (283	JKmg5 10	12	L Quantains ((3)
5						P Holi	
6	74	JOHDAMA	R (NZ) (18)	D Mores 6 10	12	J Goldstein	ø
7	300-P	MAGIC LA	WP (33) Mis	z Davison (1012	Mr A Invine	n
8	PO	CLABUD (1	19) J Gittord	61012		LAsp	d
9	3-05	PLAYLORE	(24) G McC	buri 5 10 12		E Husba	nd
10	- 4	POUNSUE?	MALL (33) .	GHlord 5 10	12	P Hi	de
71						A Thomas	
12						A McCarthy	
13						Batchelor (
14						dr N Febby (
5	0540-0	ZAFARELLI	(33) J Jenki	ns 4 10 12		J A Kawanag	h
				ctared –		-	
0.0	71W0 - 7	0 P				F E 1 Da	

BETTING: 7-2 Proseion Steel, 9-2 Processoy MIII, 11-2 San Suru, 6-1 Bar-neys Bell, Johdamer, 8-1 Falcon Ridge, 12-1 Playford, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT PRUSSIAN STEEL should improve on his Towcester run lest month and is one to be interested in at this level.

2.55 RACING CHANNEL INTERMEDIATE H'CAP CHASE (C) £7,000 2m 4f 110yds 110-11 KADOU NONANTAIS (16) O Sherwood 5 12 (). . J A McCarthy 311-PP THE LAND AGENT (21) (D) J Mulins 7 TI TI A Thornion

P-PP11 SCAVO (FR) (10) (D) D OSnen 7 10 11 M Batchelor (5) 1F-581 CARLINGFORD GALE (16) (D) T George 7 to 5 ... R Wakley 00P12- OWENERWEE (220) (D) R Ainer 7 10 D Nr. J D Moore (7) 24-321 BLACK STATEMENT (19) (C) J Gifted 8 10 0 L Aspell - 9 declared -

Minimum weight: 10st True handrate weight: Black Statement Bot 11to. BETTING: 11-10 Kadou Nonantais, 7-2 Carlingford Gale, 9-2 Scave, 10-1 The Land Agent, Owenbeee, 12-1 Black Statement

FORM VERDICT

Kadou Nonantals has been making a very good impression over two miles but there is a slight question mark about him over the longer trip (did not share when tried at it lest winter), SCAVO, however, powered home at Plumpton and as he was no fool in France.

3.30 DONCASTER SALES EBF MARES OPEN NH FLAT RACE (H) £1,500 2m 110yds 01-2 DORANS GROVE (8) (D) J King 4 11 7 L Curarains (3) BESSIE BLACK JOM 5 TI 0 ______ C Maude
DEXTRA STAR R Alter 4 TI 0 _____ ... A Thornton
KENTFORD BUSY B J Mailins 4 TI 0 _____ ... Mr J D Moore (7)

BETTING: 6-4 Bessie Black, 2-1 Dorans Grove, 7-1 Lady Marlow, 10-1 Dextira Star, Tickle The Tiller, 12-1 Renahinch, 25-1 Kentford Busy B FORM VERDICT BESSIE BLACK is just one of some well-bred newcomers. Tick-

ie The Tiller is a very interesting newcomer but as a daughter of Strong Gale, this ground may be on the slow side.

Kingston

planning

his happy

return

BY PHILIP NICKSAN

EVERYBODY WHO is anybody in competitive judo in Britain will be at the National Championships at the Cardiff Sports Centre this weekend, including world middleweight champion Kate Howey, 1995 world lightweight champion Nicola Fairbrother, and 1996 European

lightweight champion Danny

Kingston - all fighting to stake a claim to the top ranking spot

for the European and world championships next year. Danny Kingston, back after

a year's break, has to prove him-

self the best in Britain by

beating Lee Burbridge. With re-

spect to Burbridge, this should

not be too difficult considering

Kingston's record abroad,

which includes a win at the

formidable Belarussian Open in

August and many successes in

the professional leagues in Ger-

but I am still sharp." said the 25-

year-old Kingston, now training

The clash between Fair-

brother and Debbie Allan could

be epic. Allan should have the

edge, she is 23 and the current

European silver medallist,

while Fairbrother is 28 and, de-

spite a competitive record

where she has won everything

bar an Olympic gold, is now in

because of the European silver

medal, but the selectors cannot

rule me out." said Fairbrother.

ficulty retaining her title, as

should Keith Davies, at light-

heavyweight and Graeme Ran-

there should be a tense match

between Karen Roberts and

Cheryl Peel at light-middle.

Winston Gordon, the No 1 mid-

dleweight, takes on the former

New joins

incumbent Ryan Birch.

Rocks'

struggle

BASKETBALL

THE EDINBURGH Rocks coach,

Jim Brandon, has lined up

American Michael New in his

bid to lift the Budweiser

League's newest franchise

The Rocks go into tonig

televised game against Chester

Jets with just one win from 11

from the bottom of the table;

dall at light-middleweight. But

Howey should have little dif-

"She has a hold on the place

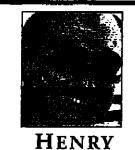
the autumn of her career.

"I haven't fought in England,

many and the Netherlands.

at London's The Budokwai.

THE INDEPENDENT



BLOFELD IN ADELAIDE

THE TOUR selectors made one surprising but logical decision which was a success and another which was both foolish and predictable and did not come off. First, they gave the offspinner's place, which had been earmarked for Robert Croft, to Peter Such and it worked a treat. Dean Headley took Alex Tudor's place and that did not.

Croft has not bowled well in Australia and the position of his feet in delivery is the main reason. Such, on the other hand, who had not bowled in a first-class match for a month, has kept at it in practice and has benefited from the advice of the former Australian off-spinner Ashley Mallet The selectors' intentions to-

wards Croft were made plain when he was picked to play against Victoria last weekend. His wickets came to catches in the deep and, of course, no one knows more about Such than the manager, Graham Gooch. None the less, it was a risk I would not have expected these selectors to take.

Such did them proud. He bowled 16 overs before tea from the River Torrens End and picked up the wickets of Mark Taylor and Mark Waugh for 31 runs. His control was not quite so good in the evening of an intensely hot and debilitating day.

Such is, above all, a cheerful cricketer and to see him running in to bowl in those enormous boots and prancing round the outfield like a horse doing dressage did the heart good. If his line occasionally strayed too much to leg against the two lefthanders, Taylor and Justin Langer, it was his only fault

The selectors receive full marks for their imagination over Such, but none at all for their treatment of Tudor. He was thrown into the deep end at Perth, took five wickets in the match, showed more ability with the bat than all the other tail-enders put together, fielded well and displayed an ideal temperament.

One can only wonder what he felt when he found that he had been discarded for Adelaide. No matter what the honeyed words were that accompanied the bad news, it can only have given his confidence a knock and set him back. He will have been told that on this lifeless pitch he would not enjoy bowling and that his confidence could be terminally damaged by two hot days in the field and figures of 0 for 100.

I suppose it is too much to ask or expect the selectors to look on the bright side of things twice in the same meeting. Tudor is full of cricket; England are not going to win the series and this Test and the last two would have given him the opportunity to grow thoroughly accustomed to the Test scene.

His temperament is rock solid; just conceivably he might have given the Australian batsmen another shock and, if not, he has the character to take what comes to him. When he returns he will again feel a slight stranger in the dressing room when he should have been experiencing the warmth and comfort that continuity brings with it. Apart from that, Headley did not bowl very well.



Steve Waugh steps out to crack a six off England's Peter Such, who had tied down the Australian batsmen, on the first day of the third Test in Adelaide

Such stays cool in the heat

THERE WAS an apology to the nation in Adelaide, and for once it didn't come from England despite fielding all day in searing temperatures around the 110 degree mark. Australia has found it difficult to come to terms with the scandal of the last few days and Denis Rogers, the current chairman of the Australian Cricket Board, went on air to beg forgiveness on behalf of the ACB and the two players involved. Later he promised a formal inquiry into the cover-up, just to make sure

there were "no sleepers about". Actually, laying doggo was about the upper limit of ambition for most people in Adelaide. Such was the heat that the dunes in Arabia's Empty Quarter could not have burned more fiercely. When the wind comes off the red interior even mad dogs lie low, a precaution that just left the Englishmen and one Australian, Justin Langer, to spend more time than was sen-

sible in the scorching conditions.

The draining stay paid off handsomely for the West Australian, who scored his second Test century. At one stage Langer was being watered and fed (bananas as it happens) every 15 minutes as dehydration took its toll. Speaking after spending 333 minutes at the crease, he said conditions were the hottest he had ever encountered in a Test match, and several of Engand's bowlers suffered cramp.

By DEREK PRINGLE in Adelaide

Australia 266 for 4 v England

state of the pitch, but necessary because of the intense heat, the third lost toss of the series meant that England were dealt a nigh on impossible hand. Mind you, with Australia ending the day at 266-4, they made a decent fist of it.

Alec Stewart played his joker at least that's how most Australians seemed to view Peter Such's surprise selection - and played him well, though two more dropped catches meant, as it has done all tour, that the situation at the end of play should have been better Such's inclusion, in place of fast bowler Alex Tudor, the find of Perth, was as controversial as it was bold. Such last played for England 50 Tests ago and his inclusion for this one caught just about everyone on the hop.

And yet, with the predictions for the thermometer to go off the scale and the pitch to start slow and then crumble, it was the right decision. After all, Tudor's big frame and long run up are not what nature would normally have provided to exploit a blast furnace.

Considering Such last played in the middle five weeks ago, it was a brave and inspired choice On a day when batting first and his 2-57 from 27 overs was was not only prudent due to the a job extremely well done. At

one stage he had bowled un-changed for about three hours phone-in on one of the TV chan-ceeds from his softening and looked hot enough to boil a kettle on his head.

For once England had a measure of control, with a spin bowler who could string together a meaningful sequence of dot balls, preventing runs rather than leaking them like Robert Croft has tended to do. In some ways, apart from Langer's knock and another defiant half-century from Steve

nels revealed that 51 per cent of viewers believe he and Shane Warne should never play for Australia again - it was soon focussed on the cricket by a superb first-ball bouncer from

Darren Gough. Gough has been the unluckiest bowler in the series with as many dropped catches off his deliveries as wickets. He was again a victim of England's

Butcher: 3rd slip. Leaping chance off Mullally. 5 Waugh was 11,

Multially: Extra cover. Failedt to take hard catch, off Gough. S Waugh was 20, made 33.

Gough: Long leg. Miscued hook to him, off Tudor. Ponting was 9,

Multaliy: 2nd innings. Fumbled return catch. Slatter was 7 made 17

Hick: 2nd slip. Fingertip catch. off Gough, half chance. Taylor was 0, made 59

Ramprakash: Point, Spilled straightforward chance, off Mullally. Taylor was 12, made 59.

ENGLAND'S MISSED CHANCES

FIRST TEST, BRISBANE **Hussaln:** 2nd slip. Slater edged Mul-Jally, half chance, Was 5, made 16 Mulially: Pluffed chance to run-out S Waugh. Was 29, made 112. Hussain: 2nd slip. Dropped 5 Waugh off Gough. Was 58, made 112. Fraser: 3rd man. Dropped Healy skyer off Gough. Was 36, made 134.

SECOND TEST. PERTH lor was 38, made 61. Hollloake: Gulley. Difficult. diving chance off Gough. Slater was 15,

Hids: 2nd slip. Finger-tlp chance, off Tudor. Slater was 25, made 34

Waugh, England ran proceedings for most of the day. After the furore surrounding

his admissions of accepting money from an Indian bookmaker, the other Waugh barely featured. Arriving at the fall of the second wicket, Mark Waugh was greeted with a mixture of cheers and boos, the latter mainly coming from the betterheeled in the Members' Stand. If his mind was on pitch and paid dividends, though not for ond slip.

habit of standing too deep at slip and he should have had Mark Taylor out for nought in the third over of the day. Instead, a difficult chance that just carried to Graeme Hick was put down. and by the time Such forced the Aussie skipper to dab to Nasser Hussain at slip the spill had

cost England 59 runs. Gough gave Mark Waugh a roasting and the aggression

Waugh never once got out to Such in the nets - now, with his feet almost as tangled as his mind, he succumbed for seven. driving loosely to provide a simple return catch.

process end up in Such's lap.

During his time at Essex,

Pressure affects people in different ways and Langer, fighting here for his place, clearly fed off it. A compact lefthander of few strokes and pretensions, Langer's efforts went barely noticed by the 13,500 crowd in the half-filled ground.

With an early pull for four off Headley, who had just had Michael Slater caught behind three balls after he was dropped at cover by Mark Ramprakash - the next most memorable shot came when Langer leg-glanced Gough for four to move to 99. Otherwise he nudged, nurdled, clipped and generally worked his way to

three figures. Steve Waugh was similarly attentive. After swishing Such for an early six over midwicket, he batted with the calm authority of an undertaker, but he is a runaholic and again went about preparing England's coffin, a nail at a time, as he and Langer added 108 for the fourth wicket.

Stewart took the second new ball and recalled Gough. Four balls later, and more than six hours after his first over, Gough got among the wickets as Hick caught Waugh low down at sec-

SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss AUSTRALIA – First Innings M J Slater c Stewart b Headley 52 min, 37 balls, 1 four

185 min. 124 balls, 5 fours M E Waugh c and b Such.

35 min. 30 balls S R Waugh c Hick to Gough 149 min, 109 balls, 4 fours, 1 six R T Ponting not out. 13 min. 7 balls Extras (165, nb11)

Total (for 4, 385 min, 90 overs) 266 Fall: 1-28 (Slater), 2-140 (Taylor), 3-156 (M E Waugh), 4-264 (S Waugh), To bat: †1 A Healy, D W Fleming, S C G MacGill. C R Miller, G D McGrath. Bowling: Gough 20-2-74-1 (nb5) (8-2-21-0, 2-0-19-0, 5-0-17-0, 3-0-12-0, 2-0-5-1): MullaHy 20-5-39-0 (4-0-8-0, 5-0-14-0, 2-2-0-0. 1-0-5-0. 1-1-0-0. 4-0-11-0. 1-0-1-0.2-2-0-0); Headley 14-0-64-1 (nb5) (6-0-27-1, 2-0-14-0, 1-0-4-0, 1-0-5-0. 3-0-12-0. 1-0-2-01: Such 27-7-57-2 (nb1) (4-2-2-0, 18-4-43-2, (1-0-2-0. 4-0-15-0. 4-1-10-0). Progress: 50: 79 min. 17.4 overs.

Lunch: 78-1 (Taylor 30, Langer 23) 28 overs. 100: 132 min. 31 overs. 150: 207 min. 48.2 overs. Tea: 173-3 (Langer 67, S R Waugh 10) 56 overs. 200: 274 min. 64 1 overs. 250: 350 min. 81.0 overs. New ball taken after 86 overs at 260 for 3. Taylor 50: 155 mm, 107 balls, 5 fours. Langer 50: 121 min. 99 balls. 4 fours. 100: 277 min. 197 balls. 7 fours. S R Waugh 50: 134 min. 99 balls. 3

ENGLAND: M A Butcher, M A Atherton, N Hussain, *+A J Stewart, M R Ramprakash, J P Crawley, G A Hick, D

Gough, D W Headley, A D Mullally, F M Such,

league outings, three straight defeats in the Uni-ball Trophy and elimination at the first hurdle from the National Cup.

The 6ft 9in New, who was born in Chicago and went to New Mexico State, played two seasons ago with Newcastle Eagles and last season for Manchester Giants (under Brandon). He av-

erages over 15 points per game. The Jets have won four of their last five games and are unbeaten leaders of Group A in the trophy, already assured or a place in the quarter-finals.

Leicester City Riders have signed Chris Webber, from National League side Plymouth Raiders. The 6ft 10in Canadian, who joined Newcastle last month but was released on a free transfer to Plymouth, makes his home debut tonight against London Towers.

Today. Sheffield's Hillsborough Sports Centre hosts this season's first City Slam 2000, when teams of local amateurs compete in a series of knock-out

Pollock continues to haunt West Indies

SOUTH AFRICA took command BY GERALD MCVIE yesterday here when the West Indies were bowled out for 121 on the second day of the second Test but the tourists made early inroads by reducing the home side to 53 for 5 before Jonty Rhodes and Shaun Pollock put on unbeaten 90 to put them 267 ahead at close of play.

Pollock was impressive with another five-wicket haul as the West Indies crumbled against top-quality fast bowling on a proved fragile again, with Stu-

in Port Elizabeth

South Africa 245 and 143-5

West Indies 121

nine wickets and was man of the match in the first Test at the Wanderers last month, had figures of 5 for 43. He was backed up by Allan Donald (2 for 33) and David Terbrugge (3 for 27).

The West Indian batting

to make scores of note. After the initial breakthrough

had been made by Pollock and Donald the tourists were sent tumbling by 21-year-old Terbrugge, playing in his second Test, who at one stage had dismissed three top-order batsmen for four runs in 7.3 overs. South Africa's second in-

nings started shakily when makeshift opener Herschelle Gibbs failed again, pushing helpful pitch. Pollock, who took art Williams (37) and Nixon Curtly Ambrose to short leg his career.

McLean (31) the only batsmen after scoring four. Gary Kirsten then fell to a fine diving catch by wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs off Courtney Walsh.

Earlier, South Africa added 22 runs in losing the last two wickets of their first innings. Pat Symcox and Donald took their ninth-wicket stand to 66, the best of the imnings, before Symcox played across a ball from McLean and was bowled for a top score of 36 and Donald made 34, the best Test score of

Second day: West Indies won toss
SOUTH AFRICA - First Innings
(Overnight 223 for 8)
P. L. Symcox b McLean
A A Donald c Hooper b Walsh
D. J Terbrugge not out
Estoras (b4 lb6 wt rb14)
Total (70.4 overs)
Pall (cost): 9-241
Bowling: Ambrose 17-6-28-2 (nb5), y

Best at his best provides haven from shopping storm

A LETTER comes from a firm in Jermyn Street, saying: "One day you will buy all your shirts from Charles Tyrwhitt..." I have to confess this news has taken me by surprise, as I rarely buy any clothing voluntarily and my shirt stock has not been replenished for at least five years. Foolishly, at that time I chose shirts which had a tendency to become increasingly tight around the collar and the middle. Rest assured, I shall purchase only quality items in future.

The point about the letter is: If people have these powers, why can't they send me useful information? What's wrong, for instance, with "One day you will see a horse called Outside



MIKE ROWBOTTOM

Bet at 100-1. Put money on it and you will win." Or "One day you will think it is a good idea to wear a leather jacket. It

Even something more

cheering. "One day you will be doch's newspapers. It shouts at sent a cheque for overpayment by the Inland Revenue... One day you will clear the front room of newspapers... One day you will learn the difference between a dark and a coloured wash..."

This is the time of year, of course, when every company, the subject. "Mr Rowbottom, shop, manufacturer and mailorder firm shouts at us to spend, spend, spend. I look up and see my children's advent calendars, their opened cardboard doors pointing at me accusingly. Have you done it all? Have you bought them all? Why not then? Why not? In my mind, the Countdown music is running, faster, faster...

I pick up one of Mr Mur- "Get a bit of ivy in there... you maculate Premiership weaves me from above the title. "Cut the cost of Christmas at Habitat." Yes, I think. Don't buy anything there. No doubt some popular American therapist has already devised a name for what I am experiencing, and written a best-selling book on you're suffering from what has come to be known as SSS -

Seasonal Stress Syndrome." At such times I have sometimes found it useful to switch on the television and watch anything. That's my excuse and I'm sticking to it. Hello. Someone is doing

something festive and creative

with Jane Asher on BBC 1...

Richard and Judy are interviewing Father Christmas. Switch off television. There's no refuge right now. But later in the day a haven

Smartens up a staircase...

Switch channel. It's an adver-

tisement for Disney videos.

"Don't miss your chance to

bring home the one gift they'll

want to open - again and

again..." Switch channel.

Match of the Day Greats. I chanced on it a couple of weeks ago - black and white footage, a leather-coloured

ball, and a pitch of mud and

patches that was a world (and

32 years) away from the im-

can tie it round with some wire. of today. Were the current Manches-

ter United team expected to play on such a surface, Alex Ferguson would probably blanch to the lips in outrage. But the Manchester United team of Law, Best, Charlton, Crerand and Herd was clearly equal to the challenge as they earned a 4-3 win at West Bromwich Albion.

Those who never saw George Best play have grown accustomed to glimpsing the man's greatness through familiar video snapshots - his Greatest Hits.

Thus, periodically, we see Best rounding Benfica's keeper in extra-time to tilt the 1968 European Cup final United's way. Best protesting at the disallowing of his "goal" against England, when he put in an impudent foot as Gordon Banks threw the ball up to kick downfield. Bearded Best shuffling and accelerating clear of three Sheffield United defenders before scoring from an impossibly acute angle. Impudent

smile. One arm raised What was compelling about the half-hour of action from The Hawthorns was the context it provided. Abbreviated it was, but the game's outstanding moments gained immeasurably from being set within the ebb and flow of a real contest.

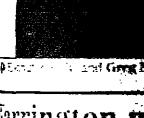
There was time, too, to see the ordinary hits and pieces.

Charlton moving the ball around efficiently rather than spectacularly. Best tackling back - a part of his game that is rarely recalled. And Best at less than his best - lithe, longsleeved, elusive, moving past the full-back Graham Williams as if the latter were a Sunday League player rather than a Welsh international, but then crossing a ball which drifted out of play beyond the far post. Best making a mistake.

For a few moments, you could imagine being there at The Hawthorns, and knowing that next time, Best would probably get it right. Which, as it turned out, he did.

It was a luxury. An early and welcome - Christmas gift.

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Regan set to climb pecking order

IF MARK REGAN found it unusually difficult to get to sleep Monday night, it was not simply because his brand new daughter was giving her weekold lungs a full aerobic workout. Bath's former inter- way around the one-horse national hooker had just experienced his worst televisual nightmare: the sight of Richard Cockerill, the man he considers his most punchable rival, revelling in the chat show lifestyle as the nation basked in the delicious afterglow of victory over the Springboks.

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As a symbol of the transitory nature of sporting fortune, it could hardly have been more cruel. Only 18 months find a way out of the moat. ago, Regan was lording it as a Dropped after England's pow- blew away the Afrikaners of and, to be honest. I haven't

RUGBY UNION

By Chris Hewett

Test Lion in South Africa while Cockerill was slumming his rugby towns of Argentina with an understrength posse of red rose remnants. Then came the sudden fall as Clive Woodward succeeded Jack Rowell as national coach and immediately left the undis-

drawbridge. Indeed, Regan has spent the last 10 months struggling to

puted king of England's front-

row castle dangling from the

der-puff scrummaging display in Paris last February and omitted from the summer tour of the southern hemisphere even though Woodward had scarcely enough fit players to fill the plane, the burly Bristolian has also found himself out of favour at club level. At best, he is fourth in the England pecking order behind

All of which makes today's tussle with second-placed Northampton at the Recreation Ground his single most important 80 minutes of rugby since July of last year, when he

Cockerill, Phil Greening and

his young Bath clubmate, Andy

in the final Springbok-Lions Test at Ellis Park, Woodward intends to watch the game live and, to make matters more interesting still, Regan will go bristle to bristle with Federico Mendez, the Puma hooker who quit Bath in high dudgeon at the end of last season

"Sound bloke, Mendez; we got along very well during our time together at the Rec. said Regan this week. "But it's different now, isn't it? It's my job to go out there and kick some ass, not smile at old clubmates. I've had some big disappointments in recent months

Northern Free State in Welkom helped myself by playing into earn himself a starting place jured. I strained my ankle ligaments in the first Premiership game of the season, came back too quickly and ended up popping a rib cartilage - the sort of daft thing you pick up when you're not in peak condition. I'm fit now, though, and I'm hungry, too."

Not that the Northampton pack is short of appetite these days. The Midlanders, level on points with Premiership leaders Leicester, consider themselves fully equipped to register a first win at Bath in more than two decades and with Mendez, Garry Pagel, Tim Rodber and Pat Lam in prime shape, they may even start as

there," said the Argentian vesterday. "And they are now standing in our way. It will be a tight game, but we will win." So there.

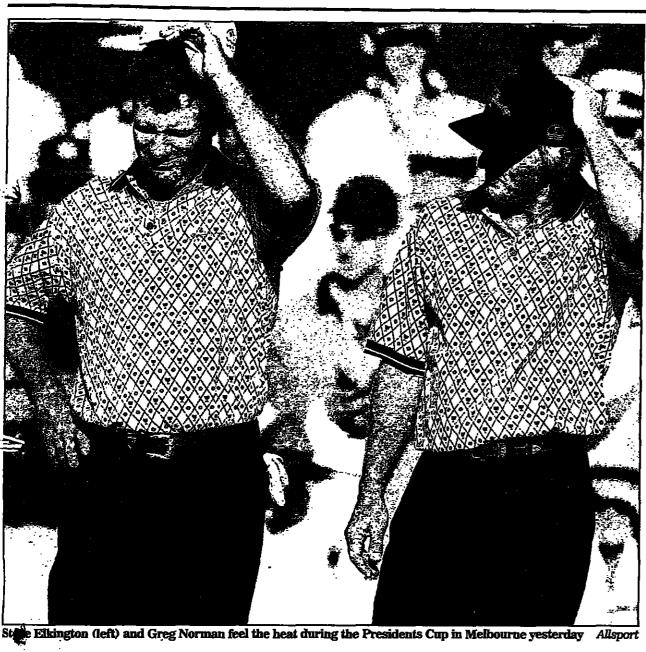
Leicester, meanwhile, will confidently expect to survive the muscular threat of Newcastle, the reigning champions, even though they go in without the reassuring presence of Joel Stransky at outside-half. The return from international duty of Cockerill, Graham Rowntree, Darren Garforth, Martin Johnson, Martin Corry and Neil Back will add

marginal favourites. Certainly, just a touch of seasoned know-Mendez is on the warpath. "I how to the Tigers' forward efhad a bad experience with fort and with the Geordies now Bath; I was not very happy accepting that the neck injury suffered by Dean Ryan, their big bad wolf of a captain, is likely to sideline him for the rest of the season, they are hardly in pole position to turn over a side who look all but unbeatable at Welford Road.

Bedford, contrastingly, are eminently beatable anywhere, but their new head cook and bottlewasher can at least anticipate two valuable Premiership points today. Rudi Straeuli, the former Springbok No 8 asked to fill the breach created by Geoff Cooke's abrupt de-

relegation-haunted whipping boys from West Hartlepool to Goldington Road and, although he describes his new job as the most difficult of his career, he knows it will not get any easier than this.

Yet if West Hartlepool face another uphill challenge, it is as nothing compared to the tests awaiting Pontypridd and Lianelli this afternoon. Their respective European Cup quarter-final visits to Stade Français and Perpignan have a distinct "thank you and good night" air about them; neither have ever won a competitive match on the far side of the Channel and it is unrealistic to expect them to



Nobilo and Turner grit rewards captain's faith

JUST AS at the Ryder Cup, you can tear up and throw away the world rankings at the Presidents Cup. Whatever a player's status in the game, it does not help get the ball in the hole in matchplay and the nine Americans here at Royal Melbourne who were at Valderrama last year will recognise the sentiment.

In a stunning reversal of all previous Presidents Cup form, the Internationals took a 7-3 lead after the first day of foursomes and fourballs. At a similar stage of the previous two matches, both won by the Americans on home soil, the Internationals trailed by five points. "My guys feel they played decently," Jack Nicklaus, the American captain, said, "but it was not decent enough."

As an ambassador for the game. Peter Thomson, the Internationals' captain, typically hit the right note when he welcomed the Americans saying they were the mightiest collection of players in the world. As an astute leader, Thomson also knew the effect of reverse psychology on his own side.

Over the previous two tournaments, the Americans had a opening session, fourballs on both occasions, and although the world No 1 Tiger Woods and ferent nations, he profited from holes and eventually we'll take

By ANDY FARRELL

in Melbourne

Fred Couples were the first to put points on the board with a 5 and 4 win over Ernie Els and Vijay Singh, the switch to foursomes on the first morning worked well for the home side.

They took the session 31/-11/2 and then followed up by taking the fourballs by the same margin. Although there are only four Australians among the 12 International players, home advantage helped as the wind switched overnight to a strong northerly that sent temperatures soaring to over 100°F.

Under such conditions, Royal Melbourne provides a similar test to the Open. But Greg Norman and Steve Elkington proved their familiarity with the surroundings by first beating Jim Furyk and John Huston by two holes in the foursomes. O'Meara 2 and 1 in the fourballs. "Steve and I have probably

played over 250 rounds here," Norman said. "Between the two of us, we knew where to go and combined record of 9-1 for the how to control the situation."

sticking to compatriot combi- a leg off." Nobilo also said it was nations. Frank Nobilo and Greg nice to be cheered like a local Turner, the two New Zealanders on the team, rewarded his faith in being sent out first in the morning by beating O'Meara and David Duval at the last.

The match featured the second and third-ranked players in the world (O'Meara and Duval) against the No 60 (Nobilo) and No 62 (Turner). Nobilo was irritated by seeing a report on an American cable sports channel, presumably piped into the players' hotel to make the visitors feel at home, which dismissed the chances of the Kiwis.

As it turned out, O'Meara and Duval were never ahead and came to the last one down. O'Meara put his approach close but Turner, persuaded by Nobilo not to leave the ball on the lower tier and take a six-iron instead of a seven, put his over the back of the green.

"I was feeling bad for Greg but then my caddie reminded and then Furyk and Mark me Wayne Riley holed from there to win an Australian Open," said Nobilo, whose 45footer duly found the cup. "I hit it perfectly and it kept running until the hole sucked it in.

"The thing about Kiwis," Although Thomson had to Nobilo added, "is we'll nip at juggle players from seven dif-someone's heels all day for 18

by the gallery to which the inevitable response was: "It's

only temporary, mate." Norman recognised the significance of the point won. "That sort of thing filters back through the entire team," said the Shark. So did the performance in the afternoon of the two Japanese players, Shigeki Maruyama and Joe Ozaki, who beat Mark Calcavecchia and John Huston 4 and 3.

The pair had practised with Norman and Elkington, and Maruyama won his foursome with Craig Parry in the morning but neither expected to reel-off 10 birdies in 12 holes. "We never thought about losing," Ozaki said, "but never thought we would win this easily." Maruyama added: "We don't go out of Japan very often but when we do we like to play well."

do we like to play well."

PRESIDENTS CUP (Royal Mediourne): International Team v US: First day: Foursomes: F Nobilo & G Turner (NZ) br M O'Meara & D Dural (US) 1 up; 6 Norman & S Bikngton (Aus) bt J Furyh & J Huston (US) 2 up; 5 Maruyama (Japan) & C Parry (Aus) bt L Lanzen & S Hoch (US) 3 & 2: T Woods & F Couples (US) bt E Es (SA) & V Singh (Fij) & 4 : D Love III & J Leonard (US) halved with S Appleby (Aus) & N Price (Zim). Fourballs Norman & Elongton bt O'Meara & Furyh & 3 : Naruyama & J Ozaki (Japan) bt M Calcavecchia & Huston (US) 4 & 3: Dunal & P Middeson (US) halved with Els & Price; Appleby (Aus) & Singh br J Leonard & Woods (US) 2 & 1: Couples & Love III bt Parry & C Franco (Arg.) 1 up. International Yeam lead 7-3.

Warrington move out to secure their future

THE LONG-DELAYED refinancing of Warrington has been completed, assuring the BY DAVE HADFIELD club's immediate future.

to leal also involving the Jouncil has bought the club's Wilderspool ground for £1m, which means they can move without debts to a proposed new stadium on the outskirts of the town.

The Warrington coach, Darryl Van de Velde, who had hinted at leaving if the club's position was not resolved, welcomed the move vesterday: With a clean slate, we can now concentrate on football and

BADMINTON

has become the country's latest sports organisation embroiled in a criminal case according to tax authorities. The BFR have been accused

of tax evasion involving more than

BASKETBALL

BOXING

g Board of Control in writing he intends to remain as cham-

in. On Thursday the promoter is ank Warren announced that ihompson had relinquished the

belt and Johnny Nelson from Sheffield would be lighting Hackney's Bruce Scott for the vacant champi-

onship at the Telewest Arena in New-castle on 13 February.

CRICKET

CYCLING

The French Cycling Federation have

2m roubles (£60,000).

he Russian Badminton Federation

RUGBY LEAGUE

building a team for Super League success."

Leeds, one of the successes of last season, are to send four squad members, including the Great Britain second-rower, Adrian Morley, to staff a fourday coaching school at two

"We hope this will be the start of a long-standing relationship between Leeds Rhinos and the British community living in Cyprus," said the club's chief scout, Bob Pickles.

Robinson hopes to end

RAF bases on Cyprus.

SPORTING DIGEST

BY BILL COLWILL To make way for Browne.

Southgate have had to de-register South African international Craig Carolan to keep their quota of overseas players at the permitted three. Carolan,

Who knows, you could be called up next time

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land scrum-half Sam Cordingly as one of two new faces in the squad. AUSTRALIA PRELIMINARY WORLD CUP SQUAD: A Blades, T Bowman, M Burke, M Cockbain, S Cordingly, D Crowley, J Eales, M Edmonds, D Giffin, G Gregan, N Grey, O Finegan, M Foley, M Hardy, R Harry, D Herbert, T Horan, P Kearns, T Kefu, S Larkham, C Latham, J Little, S Mortock, P Noriega, W Ofahengaue, G Panaho, J Paul, B Robinson, J Roff, D Smith, T Strauss, B Tune, C Whitaker, D Wilson, J Welborn.

suspended Bruno Roussel, the for-mer Festina team manager, and the team masseur Willy Voet from any domestic involvement in the sport for-(Aus) 72 75. **GB: 150** M Sheppard 74 76. **GB missed cut: 153** P Smit 77 76. **155** J Rose (Eng) 77 78. lowing the drugs scandal in this year's Tour de France. The Federation bana it Roussel - who admitted in July systematic doping within the Festiva team - for "encouraging and allowing the usage of performance-ICE HOCKEY enhancing drugs".

EQUESTRIANISM

British riders had been hoping to col-lect team bronze medals for the World Endurance Riding Champi-onships in Abu Dhabi, but the offi-cial results announced yesterday left them in seventh place. Three British riders completed Thursday's 100nders completed inursays 100-mile race through the desert: Jo Trego, Jane James and Graham Hartley, who was competing on his 37th birthday. For the last four hours they rode in pitch dark, following the lights of cars, to finish at around 10pm. Only minutes separated them from four of the teams that finished ahead.

MENTS EUROLEAGURE: Group A: Saratov (Rus) 83 Fenerbaixe (Fur) 88; Zalgiris Kau-nas (Lith) 80 Vitoria (Sp) 75; Pau Orthez (Fr) 82 Variese (It) 67 Group B: Maccabl Tel Aviv (Sr) 78 Criveria Zuesda Belgrade (Vig) 59; Man-reas (Sp) 58 Panathinalitos (Gr) 63; Group C: 4lba Berlin (Ger) 87 Ulterspor (Tur) 63; KK Zadar (Croa) 55 Olympiakos (Gr) 67; Group D: Olimpia (Sloven) 84 Samara (Rus) 55. finished ahead. WORLD ENDURANCE RIDING CHAM-Zealand; 2 US: 3 Australia; & Argentina: 5 Belgium; 6 Brazil; 7 GB, individual: 1 V Kanavy (US); 2 F Fiorucci (It); 3 D Vasunaga (Japan). Carl Thompson will not be giving up his World Boxing Organisation cruis-er title, and has informed the

Rodney Pampling from Australia shrugged off trying conditions yes-terday to take the halfway lead in the New Zealand Open at Auckland's Formosa Country Club. An eagle on the par-four fourth hole helped the Queenslander card a one-under-par 71 for a one-stroke lead as a second day of blustery conditions made the course difficult. The victims of the halfway cut included the British teenager Justin Rose, who missed out for the 10th successive

SECOND TEST (Labore) Second day: Zimbabwe 193 (A Flower 60no; Saqlan Mushtaq 5-32, Waqar Younis 4-54) Pakistan 184-5 (Saeed Anwar 75), SHEFFIELD SHEELD (Second day); (Habart); South Australia 437-6 (G Blewett 152, D Fitzgerald 135, J Vaughan 99no) Tasmania 180 (D Marsh 58; G Blewett 3-24). [First Day); (Perch): New South Wates 56 (5 Cary 4-9: B Julian 4-15) Western Australia 259-7 (Brothame); Overeisland 204-4 (J Maher missed out for the 10th successive time since turning professional after finishing fourth as an amateur at the British Open in July.

NEW ZEALAND OPEN (Auckland)
Laading second-round scores (NZ meless stated): 140 R Pamping (Aus) 63
71, 141 M Lane 72 69: M O Hern (Aus) 73 68, 142 M Campbell 70 72; P Izaurang 68 74, 143 E Boult 73 70, 144 B King (Aus) 70 74; T Chi-hiuang (Baw) 75 69, 145 J Dawes (Aus) 72 72; C Gray (Aus) 74 71, 146 M Cain (Aus) 73 73; M Jonzon (Swe) 76 70, 147 A Stolz (Aus) 73 74; P Lorard (Aus) 74 73; T Carolan (Aus) 74 73; P O'Malley (Aus) 76 71: L Parsons (Aus) 72 75, GB: 150 M Sheppard (Eng) 74 76, GB missed cut: 153 P Smiki (Sco) 77 76, 155 J Rose (Eng) 77 78.

NHL: Boston 3 Carolina 2: New Jersey 5 Philadelphia 4 (ot): Nashville 2 San Jose

goal famine at Reading KEN ROBINSON, the New

Zealand centre-forward, makes his debut for Reading in matches todav at Beeston and at home to Guildford tomorrow.

A delighted Reading coach, Andy Barnes, said yesterday: Ken will give us aggression and hopefully solve our problem of getting the ball in the net." Reading will be without Simon Mason this afternoon, as he is running an English Hockey Association coaching course.

be making his first League appearance for Southgate -

MOTOR RACING

China has been cancelled it was an-nounced yesterday. The race, on 28

March, has been switched to Buenos

Aires, subject to an agreement be-ing reached between Bernie Eccle-

stone, the Formula One Impresario, and the Argentinian organisers. A de-cision on whether China's Grand Prix,

due to be staged at Zhuhai, can be slotted in at the end of the year will be taken before the new season gets

OLYMPICS

mittee broke rules which ban them from offering gifts to members of more than \$150 (£90).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull have re-signed one of last sea-son's squad, the Australian winger

RUGBY UNION Tlaan Strauss, the former South

African captain, was yesterday named in a 35-man Australian squad for next year's Rugby World Cup. Strauss, who now plays for New South Wales in the provincial Super

12 tournament, joined the Queens-land scrum-half Sam Cordingly as

Another international will Trinidad's captain, Kwandwane

views. Leaders Canterbury entertain pointless Brooklands.

already approached by East Grinstead, is certain to become the target of quite a few clubs. Duncan Woods returns for Southgate after a two-week suspension from coach Neil Hawgood, following a difference of

SAILING The 1999 Grand Prix scheduled for

After a break of 20 years, the Cowes Week organisers announced yesterday that they had bowed to competitor and race timetable prescompensor and race timetable pres-sure by reintroducing committee boat starts for four classes each day except the final Saturday next year. The combined affect will be to al-low more flexibility for the 24 sep-arate starts to adjust for weather conditions and could also allow en-tries to push up from about 850 this year to a target religing of 1,000. The year to a target ceiling of 1,000. The August event, which in 1999 stands alone from an Admiral's Cup rescheduled for mid-July, has also won a £1m support package for the next two years from its sponsor of the previous four, Skandia Life. The International Olympic Committee have announced that they will
be holding immediate talks on
whether Salt Lake City broke
Olympic rules in its campaign to win
the race to stage the 2002 Winter
Games. During the bidding process
direct relatives of IOC members
were given organised tuition assistance and athlete training programmes. The IOC will investigate
whether the American dry's bid committee broke rules which ban them

SKIIN G

MEM'S WORLD CUP NORDIC COMBINED SPRINT EVENT (Colorado): 1

H Manninen (Fin) Brisin 32.10sec; 2 B Engen Vik (Nor) +0.3sec; 3 F Gormwald (Aur)
+3.3; 4 L Rygl (Cz Rep) +27.6; 5 A Hartmann (Swit) +27.8; 6 T E Elden (Nor)
+36.4; 7 J Gunnes (Nor) +40.0; 8 R Adermann (Ser) +42.6; 9 K Braaten (Nor)
+44.5; 10 J Mantilla (Fin) +45.7.

WOMEN'S ALPINE SKIRING WORLD CUP
GIANT SIALOM (Nal d'Inser, Fr) Second
leg; 1 A Meissnizzer (Aur) 2:17, 34; 2 D Compagnoni (It) 2:18.16; 3 A Wachter (Aur)
2:18.31; 4 A Flemmen (Nor) 2:18.59; 5 L
Piccard (Fr) 2:18.6; 6 J Kostelic (Croa)
2:18.73; 7 C Rey-Bellet (Swit) 2:18.74; =8
B Heeb (Lich) 2:19.26; A Ottosson (Swe)
2:19.26; 10 K Putzer (It) 2:19.78 Overall
World Cup standings: 1 Meissnitzer
625pts; 2 M Erf (Ger) 383; 3 R Goeschi
(Aur) 344; 4 I Kostner (It) 25:3 F Wiberg
(Swe) 250; 6 R Cavagnoud (Fr) 243; 7 A
Flemmen (Nor) 219; 8 H Gerg (Ger) 200; 9
Kostelic 192: 10 R Haeusi (Ger) 189; Glant
shalom World Cop standings: 1 Meissnitzer
280; 2 Flemmen 179; 3 Compagnoni 140;
4 Kostelic 102: 8 Wachter 96; 9 Focord 95;
10 Cavagnoud 69; Nactores Cup: 1 Austria
3,542: 3 Norway 1,056; 3 France 1,046; 4
Lost 1,039; 5 Germany 1,031.

SWIMMING 5 WI I M M I M G
EUROPEAN SHORT-COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS (Sheffleid) First dag:
Men's 400 metres freestyle: 1 E
Bermbilla (I) 3rdh 40. 45sec 2 M Rosolino (It) 3:42.87: 3 J Carsunsen (Den)
3:44.56: 4 I Koleda (Bela) 3:45.40: 5 I
Sruto (Ur) 3:46.57. Women's Sims busterfly: 1 I De Bruijn (Neth) 26.09: 2 A K
Kammering (Swe) 26.30: 3 J Sjoberg
(Swe) 26.76: 4 M Moravcova (Slovak)
26.85: 5 M Palymen (Fin) 27.02.

John faces trans inqui



THE SWEEPER

BY CLIVE WHITE AND NICK HARRIS

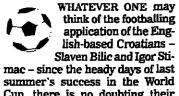


Blinding debut of a fluorescent ball

WHILE THE advent of the back-pass rule caused nothing but aggravation for goalkeepers, it did seem that the introduction of a fluorescent yellow ball would be to their distinct advantage, particularly in an English winter when visibility is poor But Mitre, who developed the Fluo Flare Ultimax ball, had not bargained for colour-blind goalkeepers, which was what they got the very first time the hall was used, in a recent Third Division match at the

Field Mill Ground. Ian Bowling, the Mansfield Town goalkeeper, had got by with his deficiency during a career which has taken him to four League clubs but he was filled with trepidation before the game against Barnet. "It took me all these years to get used to the pink ball," he said. Fortunately for him it was his opposite number who ended up being bedazzled, as Mansfield ran out 5-0 winners.

Afterwards Mitre approached Bowling with the offer of a glove deal, but according to his agent, Garry Dickinson, a sponsorship of a different sort might be appropriate. "Considering his condition, maybe we should seek a deal with an optician," he said. "In fact, I've always been suspicious about Ian's taste in clothes and now I know the



summer's success in the World Cup, there is no doubting their commitment towards their own people who make applications to enter the country. One Croatian fan you've got it, Newcastle. Fortuby the name Goran Derek had an immigration officer at Heathrow to thank, too, when he arrived in this country virtually penniless and claiming to be a friend of Stimac's.

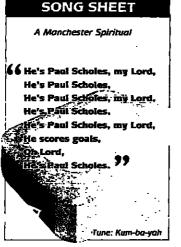
Fortunately for aspirant visitor, one of the officers on duty at the airport at time of his arrival was a Derby fan who took the trouble to contact the player in order to verify the story and then drove the young man up to Pride Park to watch his hero in action. He was

has chosen not to intervene in the dispute between Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur over ticketing for next Saturday's Lon-

Spurs had protested that Chelsea's insistence on pre-payment, rather than sale-or-return as operated by most clubs, had made it impossible for them to risk taking an extra block of 1,500 tickets over and above their original allocation

don Derby game at Stamford

"It's a difficult one to call," the League's chief spokesman, Mike Lee said, "but it is our view that Chelsea have acted in a way that is not inconsistent with custom and practice and their need to organise stewarding and policing."



Batty's first game for Leeds United was on Wednesday following his £4.4m transfer? Yes, nately for the England midfielder that was Newcastle-under-Lyme as opposed to the upon-Tyne variety he had, somewhat acrimoniously, just forsaken. Leeds' Pontins League opponents, Stoke City. play all their reserve matches at Newcastle Town FC in the North Western Trains League. Talking of

GUESS WHERE David

THE PREMIER League top in the Wragg Over-35 League in has chosen not to inwas threatening to retire at a mere 30 years of age!

> THE HOME draw against Sheffield Wednesday the other week was nothing compared to the shock Chelsea fans got when Tango, Wednesday's best-known fan, did his party piece - on his 36th birthday - of stripping to the waist at Stamford Bridge. It was not so much the act of undressing on a freezing afternoon which took them aback as the sight of the suddenly slimline Tango. "Tve lost two stone," said the once ample one. "I'm down to 15 stone. People will just have to

call me Diet Tango now."

OUT OF the Cup a trifle prematurely they may be, but Conference clubs Stevenage and Kidderminster have not gone empty-handed following recent dealings with their supposed Football League peers. Fulham's purchase of Barry Hales for £2m from Bristol Rovers has earned Stevenage £250,000 as part of the original deal which took the striker to the Memorial Ground while the progress of West Bromwich Albion's Lee Hughes has meant a never-ending success story for his former club Kidderminster. A further appearance-based payment of £50,000 to the Worcestershire club took their proceeds from his sale to £330,000 - and it could reach £1m if he makes the big-money move to the Premiership, as anticipated.

So much for the poor relations of

non-League football.

FEELING RATHER less monied last week were the players of Telford United after their hardearned 1-1 draw at Hednesford. While they had been relieving their Conference rivals of a couple of valuable home points, someone else had been relieving them of £575 from their jackets and trouser pockets in the changnon-League, that is where one of ing rooms. Jim Bentley, the club Geordieland's most famous sons captain, said: "One player after ancan now be found performing: Chris other walked into the bar afterwards Waddle. Following his departure and volunteered to buy drinks only it up by Stimac in an hotel — from Burnley, the former England — to discover that he did not have a for a few days before being flown back to Zagreb.

winger - who will be 38 on Monday penny to his name." The excuses can be found turning out for Hill-some up with.

AS YOU WERE



THE PRICE IS RIGHT

sport and has helped Birmingham to make substantial progress financially.

SUNDAY SKY MATCH

"DON'T MESS with my Tutu." Middlesbrough 2, Newcastle 2. We knew. If anyone can break down Parma's brilliant defence it's goal machines Roma but the hosts, fancied to win Serie A this term, can prevail 2-1 on C4 tomorrow. Enrico Chiesa may score first.

Who'll win the FA Cup? Spurs,

the Saints, of course. Get on.

SATURDAY LIBERO WAGERS (4 x 12 trebles with Stanley): Blackburn to dran with Newcastle (12-5); Derby to draw with Chelses (9-4): Everton to draw with South United (9-4).

Aston Villa v Arsenal

Wimbledon v Liverpool
Score: 1-1 (£1 at 11-2. William Hill, Ladbrokes. E SUNDAY C4 ITALIAN JOB

Parma v Roma Score: 2-1 (£1 at 15-2, William Hill, Stanley & Totel) First goal: Enrico Chiesa (£1 at 5-1, Wi MONDAY SXY MATCH

THE SWEEPER'S STOMPING CERTAINTIES First goal: Lee Bourger (£1 at 12-1. Startley & III FA CUP ANTE-POST PORTFOLIO

ton VIIIa (E1 at 8-1, William Hill, Ladbrokes é Stanley).

Facediam (£1 at 14-1, William Hill & Stanley) West Ham (£1 at 20-1, Ladbrokes). Leicester (£1 at 28-1 Stanley) Southampton E1 at [E1 at 50-1. Coral, Lad-brokes. & Stanley). ORIGINAL BANK: £100.

100181.

Biological Section

TODAY'S BETS: £21.80 (inc. £1.80 tax)

WHERE IN THE WORLD?

IF GABRIEL BATISTUTA thinks he is the top striker in Europe he had better think again. "Batigol", deified by hordes of Fiorentina fans in Florence. has scored an amazing 12 goals in 12 games to help his club top Serie A, but that tally does not even get the Argentine international into the top 10 goalscorers in European Premier leagues. Sigurd Rushfeldt of Rosenborg Trondheim, who narrowly failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the European Cup when they went down 2-0 to the mighty Juventus on Wednesday evening, leads the way with 27 goals.

TOP SCORERS IN EUROPEAN PREMIER LEAGUES

1 Sigurd Rushfeldt (Rosenborg Trondheim)..27 2 Oleg Veretennikov (Rotor Volgograd).... 3 Rune Lange (Tromso) ... 4 Jostein Flo (Stromsgodset) Petter Belsvík (Stabaek) .. 6 Arild Stavrum (Helsingborg) 7 Ionel Ganea (Gioria Bistrita) .. 8 Rikardur Dadason (Viking Stavanger)16 8 Andreas Lund (Molde)

10 Chris Hermansen (AB Copenhagen)

10 Mario Jardel (Porto)....

MYTEAM



AINSLEY HARRIOT ARSENAL

Celebrity chef and all-round wit

"A FRIEND of my mum's called Guy Francis came over from Jamaica. I was into Brazilian teams, but Guy said he wanted to watch Arsenal. I went with him and, of course, that was the year that Arsenal won the Double for the first time. Pat Rice was starting out and we had this long haired left-back, Bob McNab. My best moment supporting Arsenal was when Michael Thomas scored that goal. It was my first date with my girlfriend, who's now my wife. We were going to have dinner in her flat, but she could see what a state I was in so she said: "sod the dinner" - not literally mind - and let me watch it."

IN T'NET

Found on the Web: Europe's football. THE HOME of Uefa - football's European ruling body, on the web, is a good place to keep up to date with what's happening in all Europe's major club competitions and qualifying for Euro 2000, as well as look back on all past results and reports. There are features and profiles of European clubs, the women's game, and - supposedly - a selection of polls. Unfortunately, a number of links appear to be still (like much like the England team) under construction. http://www.uefa.com/index.asp

SEEN BUT NOT BOUGHT

TEMPTING THOUGH it might be to nip down to Highbury and snap up the Arsenal Champions' League Sweater – a bonanza of a bargain at £19.99 - Gunners fans should be warned quite how silly they might look if they did so. Clearly emblazoned across the chest, next to the club badge and the words "Champions' League" are the damning numbers 1998-99. Now it's one thing being partisan, but walking around with a jumper which says you'll still be in a tournament next year when you've quite obviously already been eliminated is plain idiocy.

THEY'RE NOT ALL **DENNIS BERGKAMP**

Unsung foreign FRANÇOIS KELLER: The 25-year-old French utility player is one of the newest recruits to British football's overseas contingent. having joined Second Division Fulham from Strasbourg on Wednesday for £30,000. The brother of West Ham's Marc, François was on trial at Craven Cottage in November and impressed Kevin Keegan the Fulham manager, sufficiently to make him dip into Mohamed Al-Fayed's small change and make the move permanent. François, said to be "a pacey fella, who can play in defence or anywhere really," according to a Fulham spokesman, only recently finished his compulsory national service across the Channel. the highlight of which was being



Hardly crisp and well past the sell-by date

SORRY, DID I miss something? Have the BBC abandoned their charter and started selling advertising space? Having sat in a state of increasingly pronounced jaw-drop through They Think It's All Over (BBC1, Thursday), it is hard not to

conclude otherwise. Though Gary Lineker was dumped from a crisp advertising campaign in favour of the flavour of the year, Michael Owen, he has missed no opportunity during the present series, however small, to hugging themselves. Then on Thursday, first time it raised the faintest of smiles because it was Lineker taking a rise out of himself for having been sacked. The 473rd time it was irritating and tawdry. But I wonder if he's not still on the payroll, and the Beeb with him: the last few programmes have compounded the sin by bleeping him out every time he utters the product name, which I guess is also supposed to be furmy but is also priceless pub-

CHRIS MAUME

> SPORT ON TV

plug his former employers' product. The disgracefully, the entire guess-the-name round was given over to sportspeople who share a surname with that particular brand of potato-slices-fried-in-lard-andchemicals. They might have well finished the programme three minutes early and gone straight to an ad break. What's worse, it wasn't even funny.

Though none of the terrestrial channels appear to be planning a proper look back at the World Cup for the end of the year It was Kes reworked by the BBC2 arthouse, licity. The marketing suits must be (which is surely missing a trick), there has tangential but oddly compelling.

been something of a surfeit of France 98 docusoaps in the last couple of weeks, of which Come On England (BBC2, Tuesday), was by far the strangest.

Though England's progress as seen from back home provided a peg, the film, part of the Modern Times strand, wasn't really about football at all, being more of life as a young Scally when Michael Owen is capturing the heart of a nation. Thomas lives in what is apparently a poor area of Everton, though there's not much in the way of grinding poverty. We saw him with his mate on their bikes, spying on courting couples in back-street, back-seat assignations - "They had no clothes on, nothing" -walking through streets that could almost be immediately post-war, being taught by his dad how to sex pigeons, kicking his mum up the backside in pain and frustration when Batty's penalty fails to hit the spot.

More conventional was Reggae Boyz: The Fans (C4, Monday) part of the Return of the Ba Ba Zee black culture slot. This one focused on British Jamaica fans, the most entertaining of which was Dennis Smith, a Peckham barber known as Father largely on account of his 15 kids. Something of an operator, Father is arranging a meditation on childhood, a tone poem on coaches to France for Jamaica's games, and one of the saddest sights in all the post-World Cup programming was John-Paul and Taddo, American citizens without visas, being turned back at Dover: as the ferry pulls away the camera remains, un-

flinching, on their desolate faces. Over in Lens, where the Boyz are playing Croatia in their opening game. Pauline, one of Father's ex-wives, is doing the cooking.

"I like women around me," says Father, because that's the beauty of life." It turns out that he has five present and past spouses in various states of civil and common law. "I always have a beautiful woman in my life," he says, "because when all's said and done, one woman is good, but a bird never fly on one wing. So that is why I have two wife. If you can have three wives, it's good." Though Croatia are too good for the Boyz, there's some good news: John-Paul and Taddo have turned up.

"We got the Sea Cat to Ostend in Belgium," one of them says, "then a train to Lilly Flanders [sic], then we took a train to Lens. No one ever asked us for a passport or ticket. We just walked into the World Cup." Father, though, is not so happy - he's lost money on the outing. By the second match though, he's back in France, selling Jamaica shirts on the street to make up his losses, standing out from the other hawkers with his graceful little dance. The Boyz, though, fall again, this time 5-0 to Argentina. Still, the party goes on.

In Lyons the team is playing for pride alone, and Father is back, this time a lone

tourage, not much gear to sell, no ticket even. But he is confident one will turn up - and at a good price. And incredibly, he gets one - in exchange for a replica shirt. And the Boyz turn up trumps, too. Father is an engaging character, but that's enough flies on the World Cup wall, thank you.

The investigative programme Here And Now (BBC1, Monday) took on the racing industry's shadowy premium-line tipsters, who achieve the numbers of winners they do by the simple expedient of tipping every horse in every race. So somewhere, on one of their lines, you'll find the winner.

Here And Now put a couple of them to the test, up against the kids of Bollings Primary School in Altrincham - to embarrassing effect. Anna Openshaw made her entry into the Racing Post tipsters' table. backing a winner "because I liked it." They gave her another go, but her nap for last Tuesday at Huntingdon was sadly a nonrunner. Still, Channel 4's The Morning figure padding the rainy streets - no en-

مكذا من الاصل

Johnson faces transfer inquiry

PETER JOHNSON is to face a By ALAN NIXON Football League investigation into transfer dealings with his old club, Tranmere Rovers.

Johnson, who stepped down recently as Everton chairman, is under orders to dispose of one of the Merseyside clubs he has a stake in by the end of the year. However the Football League is preparing a dossier on transfer deals, including one that took the goalkeeper Steve Simonsen from Rovers to Everton this season, and wants to ask Johnson about the background.

A previous move involving Tony Thomas may also come Inder scrutiny in the light of raud Squad investigations into the former Tranmere chairman, Frank Corfe. A police statement yesterday said: "The Merseyside Police Fraud Squad have received a complaint from the board of directors at Tranmere Rovers Football Club. Enquiries are now being made but they are at mitted they have no timetable a very early stage."

League insiders say Johnson will be questioned about the Simonsen move following complaints, many of which have come from Tranmere fans.

Rovers were under the control of Corfe when Simonsen was sold to Everton, with the price camps. Everton claimed they cause of a clause in his contract paid a British record fee of more than £3m, while Tranmere re- to join Gianluca Vialli's squad ceived only an initial payment of for the rest of the season for a £500,000, with the rest of the cash made up of appearances and a player in exchange.

That angered Tranmere officials, with claims made that nently or on loan.

other clubs had offered more up front for Simonsen, but Everton were allowed to sign him instead.

If those claims are verified then Johnson could be in trouble with the League for having an influence on his old team, a club he still has a big interest in. That contravenes rules about individuals having shares in more than one club and is as blatant a case as could be imagined.

Patrick Vieira will face the evidence of three police witnesses at his Football Association disciplinary hearing on Monday. The Arsenal midfielder faces two misconduct charges relating to his side's match at Sheffield Wednesday in September.

The first charges him with making gestures to Wednesday fans while the second relates to an alleged incident in the tunnel with a police officer. Manchester United have ad-

in place for new contract talks with their manager, Alex Ferguson. United have still to begin negotiations despite chief executive Martin Edwards' promise last month to sit down and discuss Ferguson's future.

Chelsea's attempt to sign the Spanish striker Juan Anwith River Plate. Pizzi was due £300,000 "loan fee". But Chelsea discovered that Pizzi's old club Barcelona are due £1.5m if Pizzi plays in Europe perma-



Paul Gascoigne is all smiles during Middlesbrough's final training session before today's home game against West Ham

Rudge plans a Wearside shock

THE PORT VALE manager John Rudge insists his side are capable of causing a shock by defeating the First Division leaders Sunderland at the Stadium of Light today.

The Wearsiders are four points clear with a game in hand and have suffered just one defeat in 28 League matches this season. They won 2-0 at Vale Park barely four weeks ago but Rudge, whose team have lost six of their last seven outings, said: "Sunderland are a class act but we've gone to places like this and earned results before. There's no reason why we can't do so again."

LEAGUE

BY STEVEN BAKER

Vale have Peter Beadle, Tony Naylor, Michael Walsh, Jan Jansson and Dave Barnett back in contention, while the in the position we were in a few hosts could recall Alex Rae.

At Portman Road, secondplaced Ipswich face Barnsley, who have taken seven points from three tough matches since Town won 1-0 at Oakwell

Ipswich are set to be unchanged, with on-loan Samassi Abou continuing up front in Jason van Blerk said: "We must

son, while the Tykes' top scorer Ashley Ward is suspended. Bottom-placed Crewe Alexan-

dra travel to Queen's Park Rangers, whose manager Gerry Francis has warned his side not to take the game lightly. "They're weeks ago, so we must be on guard. We're still not out of Crewe are without dead-leg victim Rodney Jack, so Steve Anthrobus is likely to deputise.

West Brom visit Hudderspoor form. Their defender

place of the injured David John- start learning from our mistakes. We've been struggling to hang on to the lead when we take it."

Graham Taylor is due to attend Watford's match against Stockport at Vicarage Road today after missing four weeks with a throat abscess. Kenny Jackett will still be in temporary charge of the Hornets, but Taytrouble ourselves," he said. lor is hoping to resume duties on Monday.

The Wolves manager Colin Lee may keep Neil Emblen on the bench for the meeting with field hoping to turn a corner of Norwich, even though he scored against Bolton last week. Norwich's Darren Eadie is poised to

return to the first team after four games out with a knee injury. He will replace Keith O'Neill, who will be out for at least a month with a pulled hamstring. Bradford, at Swindon, have

defender Ashley Westwood available for the first time this season after an ankle injury. Bolton's Mark Fish looks set to be kept on the bench by on-

loan duo Jon Newsome and Paul Warhurst at Tranmere.

Bristol City are looking to bank some points in their fight against relegation at home to Crystal Palace, while cashstrapped Oxford play host to

Parma's power a problem for Roma

ITALIAN LEAGUE

By Ian Davies

PARMA, WHO capitalised on the dismissal of Sergio Porrini to come back from a goal down to beat Rangers 3-1 (4-2 on aggregate) in the second leg of their Uefa Cup tie on Tuesday, entertain Roma in tomorrow's live Channel 4 game in Serie A.

Parma, who, despite their attacking 3-4-3 formation, have conceded just five goals in 12 games in the league this season, were mightily impressive when hammering visitors Milan 4-0 13 days ago and, last Saturday in Genoa, Parma moved up to third place -Fiorentina are top - by beating Sampdoria 2-0.

Parma, who have an awesome array of talent, look genuine contenders for the Scudetto. Gianluigi Buffon, their 20-year-old goalkeeper, is challenging Juventus's Angelo Peruzzi as Italy's first-choice, and Lilian Thuram, a World Cup-winner with France, and Fabio Cannavaro are outstanding in defence. Parma also have the brilliant Argentine playmaker Juan Sebastian Veron in midfield and, up front, their strikers include Enrico Chiesa and another Argentine, Hernan Crespo. Even without the injured Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla, Parma are close to full strength.

But if any side in Serie A can break down Parma, it is Roma. second in the table following their 5-1 annihilation of Perugia at home last Saturday. Roma's strikers Marco Delvecchio and Francesco Totti have scored 15 goals between them so far and. under the attacking policy of Zdenek Zeman, their Czech coach, Roma have become Serie A's top scorers with 26 goals. Roma are without two defenders, Brazilian right back Cafu and the Cameroon left back Pierre Wome, both injured.

TODAY

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP i Lekester v Nottingham Forest Middlestrough v West Ham... Sheffield Wednesday v Charlton Tottenham v Manchester Utd

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Bristol City v Crystal Palace...... Huddersfield v West Bromwich

12 OPR v Crewe
13 Surderland v Port Vale
13 Surderland v Port Vale
14 Surderland v Port Vale
15 Surderland v Port Vale
15 Surderland v Port Vale
16 Surderland v Stockport
16 Surderland v Stockport 17 Wolves v Norw SECOND DIVISION

19 Bournemouth v York
20 Fulham v Burnley
21 Lincoln City v Colchester
22 Macdesfield v Luton
23 Manchester City v Bristol Rovers 24 Milwall v Reading 25 Northampton v Chesterfield 26 Notts County v Preston 27 Oldham v Walsall 28 Stoke v Gillingham 29 Wigan v Wrexham ..

33 Chester v Darlington. 35 Leyton Orient v Peterborough.

SCOTTISH
PREMIER LEAGUE
berdeen v Hearts
undee Utd v Celtic
uniter mine v Motherwell
angers v Klimarnock
I Johnstone v Dundee

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION SECOND DIVISION
East Fife v Clyde (1.30)

Stirling v Arbroath THIRD DIVISION Albian v Dumbarron..... East Stirling v Ross County

Alloz v Stenhousemult THE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE ough v Morecambe. tayes v Hereford

Kettering v Barrow Kingstonlan v Yeovil Northwich v Hednesford

Welling v Doncaster Woking v Kidderminster

A Carksberg VASE Third reand: Highfield Rangers v Garforth Town, Standley MW

V Durston FB: Bedlington Terriers v Middeover

Sports: St Helens Town v Ecdeshill Ukt, Branden Lifd v Goole; Warrington Town v Heanor

Town: Mossley v St Andrews: Billingham Town

v Cittheroe; Seaham Red Star v Vaunchall GM:

Workington v Town Law Town, Kidsgrove Ath-Workington v Tow Law fown; Kidsgrove Athletic v Cadby Town; East Thurnock Utd v Harlow Town; Ridsgrove Athletic v Cadby Town; East Thurnock Utd v Harlow Town: Royston Town v Sudbury Town; Thame Utd v Leichworth; Sudbury Wanders v Brache Sparta; Bowers Utd v Diss Town, Barkingside v Otdbury Utd; Spadiling Utd v Norchwood: Falsenham Town v Bedford Town; Chasetown v Wrocham, Ford Utd v Newmarket Town; Woodbridge Town v Cacton Town; Meliksham Town v Ash Utd; Herne Bay v Banstsed Athebic; Isanizon Town; Sie Bizzey v Porthleven; Ramsgate v Bernerton Heath Harbergures; Umington & New Mitcham Utd; Wick v Sidey Utd; Cobham v Caypterley Town.

v Carterley Town.

**RESAN LEAGUE Premier Division: Aylesburg Skipping: Basingstoke v St Albans; Borehait Wood v Hampton; Bromley v Hendon.
Carstation v Purflee; Degenham & Rechonge v Aldershot; Duhwich v Chesham; Enfest v Blobers & Stanford. Healthfide v Surron.

or Regis Jown: Leatherhead v Rommond: Maldenhead Und v Whyteleafer, Molesey v Croydon; Staines Town v Yeading; Undridge v Chertsey Town: Wembley v Wealdstone: Worthing v Barton Rowers, Second Divisions. Abingdon Town v Wookingham Town: Barking v Witham Town; Edgware Town: Chalfont St Peter: Hemel Hempstead v Leighton Town: Weldingham Town: Chalfont St Peter: Hemel Hempstead v Leighton Town: Welt Police v Horsham. Third Divisions: Cheshunt v Egham Town; Clapron v Horncherch; Corinchian Cassals v Southall: Croydon Achience v Tring Town: Plackwell Heath v Aveley, Lewes v Dovking.
UNUBCOND LEAGUE Premiser Division: Autoridian v Staybridge: Barbor Bridge v Whitby: Blyft Sparrans v Marine. Chorley v Gainsborough: Fricidey's Planton Chorley v Gainsborough: Fricidey v Runcom: Gateshead v Ernley; Hyde Urd v Winsford Urd, Lancaster v Worksor; Leigh RMI v Bishop Auckland; Spennymbor v Accington Stantey First Division: Belper Town v Ashton Urd: Bradford Rark Avenue v Hucknall Town; Burscough v Farsley Cello. Droyteken v Genera: Eastwood Town v Wilcon Albion: Madock Kown v Consection Nown; Netherfeld v Lincon I'm? Raddiffe Borough v Findon, Iralford v Hamogate Town; Whittey Bay v Alfreton Town: Bronsgrove v Boston Urd, Burton Albion v Rothwell. Gloucester City v Cambridge City; Hastings v Gresley Rovers; King's Lynn v Bennergh V Boston Urd, Burton Albion v Rothwell v Southern Buston. Middland Division: Blahenall v Paget Rangers. Onderster: City, Weymouth v Bleston. Stafford Rangers v Weston-survival v Now; Racing Warwick v Softhull Boro: Reddoch Und V Clevedon Kown; Stepshed Dynamo v Wisserh Town; Stafford Rangers v Weston-survival v Now; Cheshee Cown; Kleys Novin Voston v Pasher V Now; Hender St Middland Folke; Knypersky Viston v Versbore Town; Flex Cown v Studenhor Lown; Mangate v Bashier, Newport (lown) v Blownich Now; Mangate v Bashier, Newport (lown) v Southoul Borour, Reddoch Und V Lowedon Kouling v Penritti; Marske Urd v Southon; West Auchland V Norpets Piston v Versbore Town; West Auchland V Norpets Piston V Combrid

rith: Marske Utd v Stockton; West Auckland v Morpeth Town.
NORTH WESTERN TERAINS LEAGUR First Division: Atherton Colleries v Oneadle Town; Boote v Ramsborcom Utd; Holker Old Boys v Skelmersdale Utd; Leek CSOB v Salord City, Nantwich Town v Gossendale Utd; Newcasite Town v Rossendale Utd; Prescot Cables v Malne Road.
WINESTONLEAD RENT LEAGUE Premier Divisions: Beckenham Town v Chatcham Town; Camberbury City v Slade Green; Erith Town v Whitstable Town; Hythe Utd v Shepey Utd; Lordswood v Cray Wanderers; Tunbridge Wells v Thamesmead Town; VCD Athletic v Faversham Town.

Curc Stewards of Lidyids Corby v Ford Sports;
Butchingham v St Ness.
Butchingham v Broadbridge Heath; Portried v
Eastbourne Inth Residue V Littlerappron Town;
Rhigmer v Select, Sakidean Und v Shoreham.
John O'Hara League Cup Foorth round:
Burgess Hill Yewn v East Preston.
SCREMPTO DRECT LEAGUE Premiler Division: Barnstaple Town v Chippenham Town;
Budeford v Odd Down & Briston Manor Farm v
Keynsham Town. Etnore v Bredington; Pauton
Rovers v Bridgor: Westbury Uld v Bishop Sunton;
Yeon v Bardonell.
MORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE
Premiler Dhistons: Armidrope Welfare v
Portrefran Cols Armold Town v Oscert Town;
Classhoughton Welfare v Densby Unted; Haitsam v Pickering Town; Liversedge v Bucon,
Mality v Brigg Town; Liversedge v Bucon,
Mality v Brigg Town; North Ferriby v Sefby
Town. Thackley v Ossert Albon.
JEWSON WESSEN LEAGUE: BAT Sports v
Bournemouth; Christchurch v East Cowes Wes,
Eastleigh v Cowes Sports, Faretham Town v
Gospon Bastiern League Bary in,
JEWSON BASTIERN LEAGUE BAT Sports v
Bournemouth; Christchurch v East Cowes Wes,
Eastleigh v Cowes Sports, Faretham Town v
Gospon Beastiern League Themster Thviolant Feithestowe v Malidon Tn; Great
Yarmouth Tn v Harwich & Parkeston; Halsted
Tn v Corlesson, Histon v Stowmarket Vn; the
switch Wanderleds v International v Perst
Hamborne Reself LEAGUE Bay Tn,
PRESS & JOURNAL Hinghit LAND LEAGUE:
Broad Rangers v Cowe Rangers; Burdet Thisried v Fortes Mechanics; Deveronate v Perst
League Col v Lewaborn. Caerbase v HarriCollegin Christians. Deveronate v Perst
League Cor William; Harnity v Clachascuddin; Naim County
v Newstown. Holywell v Inter Cables Tel
Carotit; Rhayader Youn v Caernation Swits
v Distillery; Larnasoly Uld v Ballyridare
LEague Cor William; Learner Carlos v Harritordwest; Carmerthen Ewer v Caernative V Harfordwest; Carmerthen Ewer v Learnative Town. Town
v Newstown. Holywell v Inter Cables Tel
Carotit; Rh

Perpignan v Uanelli (2.0) ... Stade Français v Pontocia-Cup: Stewarts & Lloyds Corby v Ford Sports; Buckingham v St Ives. UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE FIRST DI-**QUARTER-FINALS** Brive v Caerphilly (6 30)...... Narbonne v Pau (2.30)....... ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE

RUGBY LEAGUE SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP First round: Clayton v Normanton (1 30); Ovenden v East SILR CUT CHALLENGE CUP First round: Clayton v Normanton (1 30); Ovenden v East Leeds (1 .30).

MATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE Premier Division: Castieford Lock, Lane v Beverley East.
Hull (2.0); Evenone v Wigos Sr Perricus (2.0); Leigh M R v Vincolston (2 30); Salchaugh v Askam (2.0); Thomball v Heaveth (2.0), Walney Central v Oldham St, Annes (1 .0) First Divisions: Dudley Hill v Outton (2.30), Featherstone Lions v Shaw Cross (2.30); Million v Redhill (2.0); Siddav Leigh East (2.0); Wagan St, Ludes v Barrow Islamd (2.0), Section Previous Blacktonois v Vork Acom (2 30); Eccles v Devkury Moor (2.0); Ideal Isbrey v Hull Docker's (2.0); Keighley Alb v London Skotlars (2.0); New Earswick v Dodworth (2.0).

TEAMISPORT INTERNATIONAL: Veland Students v France Scudents (2.0) (at Blackrock Colf).

WEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS CHECK RUGBY UNION 3 0 unicss stated EUROPEAN CUP

rançais v Pontypridd (2 30) EUROPEAN SHIELD

Bath v Northampton Bedford v West Hartlepool.... Sale v Gloucester (2.0)

Sale v Gloucester (2.0).

PREMIERSHIP TWO: Exerce v Blackheath: London Weish v Fytie (2.0): Moselev v Rotherham: Wale-field v Coventry (2.30);
Waterstoo v Orrell (2.15).
JEMISON NATIONAL LEAGUE One: Brinnigham/Solikull v Morley (2.30); Harrogate v
Camberley (2.15); Liberpool St Heleiers v
Henley (2.30); Newbury v Manchester: Reading v Orley (2.15); Rossym Park v Lydney
(2.30); Wharfedale v Nortugham (2.15). TwoMoretic Aspatria v Sedgley Park (2.30), New
Brighton v Hindidey (2.15). Nuneation v
Whitchurch (2.30); Freston Grasshoppers v
Sandal (2.15). Stourholge v Lichfield (2.30);
Walsall v Kendal (2.30); Winnington Park v
Sheffield (2.30); Two Soatis: Barking v Norwich (2.15). Brigwater v Havant; Cheltenham v Brocknel (2.30); Cliffon w Met Police
(2.30); Ester v Tabard, North Walsham v Redruth (2.15). Piymouth v Weston-superMare (2.30)

WELSH MATIONAL LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
Aberavon v Bridgend (2 30)
Neath v Newport (2:30)
Neath v Newport (2:30)
Neath v Newport (2:30)
Statistics of the sta

Swansea v Harlequins (2.30)
TENNISTON FIRST DIVISION
Currie v Melrose (2.0)
Gasgow Hawks v Hawlck (2.0)
Jed-Forest v Henois FP. (2.0)
Scrüng County v Boroughmuir (2.0)
Watsonians v West of Scotdand (2.0)
Second Divisions Duridee HSFP v Abendeen
GSFP (2.0): Edinburgh Acads v Nelso (2.0), Selbur v Kirkackly (2.0). Third Divisions Gusgow Southern v East Kilbride (2.0), Genrothas v Ayr (2.0), Gordonians v Berwich (2.0), Selbur v Kirkackly (2.0). Third Divisions Gusgow Southern v East Kilbride (2.0), Genrothas v Ayr (2.0), Gordonians v Berwich (2.0); Peetise v Screwarts Mel FP (2.0); Preston Lodge v Grangernouth (2.0).
A I B LEMGUE First Division: Contal v Buccancers (2.30), Controlling Ballymens (2.30); Galavegans v Blackrock College (2.30); Stammon v Garryowen (2.30), St Marry v Landowne (2.30); Eremure v Young Munorer (2.30) Second Divisions Edinynahinch Volugamon (2.30); College (2.30), Old Poston (2.30); College (2.30), Old Mesley v Skerries (2.30), Portadown v UCC (2.30)

PREMIERSHIP TABLE PIPts GD W D L F A W D L F A Normon on right Upcoming matches iay Commery (4); 20 One Argenti (A); i Ionesarie (A): 28 One Wemperium (Terramony Assert Wills (A): 20 Dec (cests (A) 26 Dec West Hain (A): 28 Dec Charles (A) Taking Middlestrough (AL, 19 Day, Section & 26 Dec America (AL), 28 Dec Camentry (Pi) Thing thes Ham Pil; 19 Dec Man that A 26 Dec Liverpool (11): 28 Dec Dorbe (4). lamorsen i verpool (* 1, 19 Dec Soursespec Alf 26 Dec Ourton (* 1, 28 Dec Leath (*) WININ Terrando Martinia (fi. 19 Dec Svil II (fi. 26 Dec Militaria: (Al. 28 Dec Missiania (fi. Today Chebra (M: 19 Der Conentry (A): 2 Des Evernos (A) 28 Dec Maddlestreugt (A) MDIMD lookey Man Lind (Mg. 19 Dies Contract Mg. 2 Dies Contentry Link. 28 Dies Exercise Mg. 2

15 30 49 5 2 1 14 9 3 4 1 10 6 WILDOL Aston Villa 15 29 +14 6 2 0 21 8 2 3 2 10 9 Man Utd 15 28 +10 5 3 0 13 5 2 4 1 11 9 WINDOW Chelsea 16 26 +12 5 2 1 14 3 1 6 1 12 11 WWWLW 16 26 48 4 4 0 11 3 2 4 2 4 4 WOLDO 16 26 0 4 3 7 12 9 3 2 3 8 11 16 24 +7 3 5 0 14 7 2 4 2 12 12 16 **23 -3 4 3 1 13 9 2 2 <u>4 8 17</u>** 16 22 +6 3 3 2 15 10 3 1 4 12 11 Liverpool 16 22 0 2 4 2 6 6 3 3 2 9 8 10 Derby 15 22 3 4 2 2 13 13 2 2 4 8 11 11 Tomenham 16 21 0 4 2 2 11 8 1 4 3 7 10 DITTOM 12 Lekcester Today Backbarn (A); 19 Dec Leicesfor (A 28 Dec Lezza (A); 28 Dec Leicesfor (A) 16 20 0 4 2 2 13 10 1 3 4 8 11 DOLWD Testay Charleon (A): 19 Dec Lucepcco (A). Dec Lucescop (Pi), 28 Dec Asson Villa (A) 16 19 0 4 2 2 10 5 T 2 5 7 12 LDWDL 14 Sheff Wed 15 19 -5 1 5 2 2 5 3 2 3 8 10 Timber Southermaton (Alt. 19 Dec 1951 In (A), 26 Dec (Certy) F4; 28 Dec Tople/Sell (LLWWD Today Sheff Wird IAE 21 Dec Asion V Pile Bed Miniplesion (A): 28 Dec Arastal (H) 16 16 -2 2 3 2 13 8 1 4 4 9 16 6 Chariton 16 15 -9 3 2 3 9 10 1 1 6 5 13 nday Leeds (A): 19 Dac Desby \$4; 26 De Estato 66; 28 Dec Meis Hars (M. WWLD Corectly 16 12 9 3 1 4 10 10 0 2 6 5 15 Taday Myaqasic (Aft. 19 Dac Motom Force (A 26 Dac Agem Villy (Ag. 28 Dac Lecesia) (Al LLLLIM Cooking Ladontons phij: 19 Desc Mariations (rift, 24 Desc Klass Mod phij. 20 Desc Scherbengeren (rift. 16 11 -13 1 4 3 6 9 1 1 6 8 18 DDLDL 19 Notice Forest 16 10 -21 1 2 5 9 17 1 2 5 3 16 DIMIT Today Evenen (A). 19 Dec. Wilmfaledon (F 26 Dec Charges (H). 28 Dec Harrow Forest (F

HOCKEY

Grinstead (2.0).
SOUTH PREMIER: Beckenham v Maldenhead; Bladcheath v Purfey Walcountlans; Bounemouth v Gore Court, Chichester v Woking; City of Portsmouth v Richmont; High Wycombe v Wekingham, Old Granleighams v Herne Bay, Tunbridge Wells v Anchorans, Wimbledon v Old Whitgirtlans; Winchester v Fareham Wittokson v Fareham.
DTZ MIDLAND PREMIER: Edgbasron v
THE Hampion-In-Arden v Harborick

DTZ BIDDLAND PREMIER: Edghaston v Shrevobury, Hampton-in-Arden v Harborne: Khaisa v Coventry & North Warvick; Northampton Saints v North Stafford, Nortingham v Leek; Olton & West Warvick v North Norts.

PREMIER HOLIDAYS EAST PREMIER: Bedford Town v Bishop's Stortford, Crostly v Bluehars, Ipswich v Cambridge City; Peterborough Town v Cambridge Link; West Herts v Catcon.

NORTH PREMIER: Bowdon v Norton; Obester v Ben Rhydding, Rottierham v Sheffield Bankers: Southport v Formby; Warrington v Harrogate.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Edinburgh Rocks v Chester Jeis (7 0): Leicester Riders v Lon-don Towers (7:30): Thames Valley Tigers v Greater London Leopards (8 0) ICE HOCKEY

ICE HOCKEY

SERONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Bracknell
Bees v Manchester Storm 16 01; Nottingnam Panthers v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.0).
BRITISH NATIONAL LEAGUE: Basingstoke Bison v Paisley Pirates (6.30); Fire
Plyers v Peterborough Prates (7.0); Slough
Jets v Guildford Flames (5.30)
VIC ORBESTNAS CUP: Milton Neynes Kings
v Telford Tigers (7.0); Swindon Chill v
Cheimsford Chieftains (5.30).

OTHER SPORTS BOORNG: Norld Boating Union super-bantammenight dities C Navarro (US, hold-er) v J Armour (Ken.) (at Elephant & Castle. London); European bantammelght title: P Lloyd (Elleamere Porty v I. Mancini (II); Commonwalth figuredght title: A Zvernj-la (Artica) v D ketty (Belfast) (at Chester); SWIMMING: European Short-Course Championships (at Sheffield).

TOMORROW **FOOTBALL**

Aston Villa v Arsenal (3.0) ... Wimbledon v Liverpool (4.0) Wimbledon v Liverpool (4 0)

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
FIRST DIMISION
POTSMOUTH V Grimsby [1,0]
FAL HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE
OF RELAND Premier Division: Derry
City v Shamrock Rovers (3,15): Dundalk v
Cork City (3,15): Shelboume v Bray Wanderers (3,15): UCD v Finn Harps (3,15).

RUGBY LEAGUE SAR CIT CHALLENGE CUP First round: Rochdate Mayfield v Leeds Met Univ 11.30); Scottish Border Eagles v Waith Brow (2.00) (an Hillhead S C. Glasgow); Gateshead Panthers v Crosfields (2.00).

RUGBY UNION ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE Saracens v London Irish (3.0) ᄣᅲᇄ Rugby v Leeds (3.0) WOTCESTER V Bristol (2.30)
EUROPEAN CUP QUARTER-FINAL

iowgoin v Agen (2.0) Montierrand v Dax (2.0) TRANSFERS

FULL TRANSFERS

Free or undisclosed fee unless stated David Batty (midfielder) Neurastie Utd to Leeds Utd (4. sm); Jesper Haltmann (de-jonder) Halmsad on Notum Forest (200,000); Sisson March (defender) Coford Utd to Birm-ingham City (2250,000); François Kaffar (md-fielder) Strasbourg on Fulham (£30,000); Nir Berlands (midfielder) Maccabi Halfa to Arsenal LOANS/TRIALS Zeijke Radionic, (forward) Grazer AN to Shell Wed; Zolkan Reiskes (forward) Ulpes Dosza to Southampton: Janos Mashyus (defender) Napest-Inneed to Southampton, Curistian Ed-marks (defender) Bristol Cry to Notom Forest: Lee Power (forward) Phymouth to Halffat; Hasnada Santheny (defender) Marcelles to Ip-swich Town: Marth Midfeeuer (forward) Shelf Wednesday to Bristol Rojets; Andrew Comp-bell (formate) Middlestrough to Shelfield Urd. HOCKEY

ston (2.0): Old Loughtonians v Hourslow (2.0). Reading v Guildford (2.0): South-gate v Teddington (2.0). RACKETRALI UNI-BALL TROPHY Pool stage: London Towers v Birmingham Builets (5.0) (at Wembley Arena): Milton Keynes Lions v

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Cardiff Dev-ils v Manchester Storm (1.0); Sheffield Steelers v Ayr Scottish Eagles (6.30) BRITISH NATIONAL LEAGUE: Ed burgh Capitals v Fife Flyers (6.30). Guild-ford Flames v Palsley Pirates (6.0); Peterborough Pirates v Slough Jets (6.15).

OTHER SPORTS **SWIMMING:** European Short-Course Champlonships (at Sheffield).

QUOTES OF THE I knew we were okay with 10 minutes to go because the

with these things. Alex Ferguson, Manchester United, on the last 10 minutes of the game against Bayern Munich (in which a draw was sufficient for both sides to go

through).

Germans are never wrong

Relaxed? Yeah, mate, I mean it was only five grand. Shane Warne on the betting scandal in Australia.

I drank diet Coke on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and

> decided to open a Heineken and shot a 65 and 66. The British golfer Lee Westwood's recipe for decent play at the Million Dollar Challenge in Sun City.

> it didn't work Thursday, so I

If the price is right, I'll fight a Mike Tyson on his latest comeback bout, against

Francois Botha in January.

If you want a close shave, nothing else comes within a whisker.



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GETS YOU CLOSER QUICKER,

Football: Liverpool miscreant finds consistency at last after enrolling at the new School of Science across Stanley Park

Hutchison leaves bad times behind

BY GLENN MOORE

AS LIVERPOOL, post-Vigo, start their latest rebuilding process some fans are finding themselves in the uncommon position of looking wistfully across Stanley Park and pondering what might have been. Six years ago Anfield thrilled to one of the most promising midfield pairings in the game. Now one half of it is playing, and playing well, for the enemy.

It has been a long time coming, but Don Hutchison is finally realising for Everton the potential he showed at Liverpool. Then he operated in tandem with Jamie Redknapp, now he plays with another passing master, John Collins. For once on Merseyside it is the reds who are feeling green.

Hutchison's Liverpool career foundered on his immaturity. In a classic case of too much, too young, he found himself involved with the law, exposed on the front pages of the tabloids wearing nothing more than a beer label in a Cyprus bar, and drummed out of the club. He went to West Ham, where another promising start faded as, according to Harry Redknapp, "he fell in with bad company". Next stop was Sheffield United, where Howard Kendall, no stranger to adverse publicity, revived his career before taking him to Goodison.

'I learned the hard way. It's easy to get up to little pranks when you're 19, 20, playing in Liverpool's first team'

Last season he scrapped with the rest of them as Everton struggled to stay up. They did, just, and he has taken the chance to flourish anew as the club, in the wake of the departure of Duncan Ferguson, returns to the principles of the "School of Science". Post-Fergie Everton have taken seven points from three games and hope against Southampton at Goodison Park this afternoon to lift themselves level on points with Liverpool.

The change in Everton's style and fortunes has come at the right time. At 27, Hutchison appears to have grown up. He is to marry Debbie, his girlfriend of three years, in the summer and declares the days of carousing are behind him.

"You've got to grow up." he said this week over nothing stronger night I'm more likely to have a Chinese with a few of the lads, or my fiancée, who has been a big influnight now I'd still be recovering on been through all that." Monday morning.
"I learned the hard way. It's easy

to get up to little pranks when you're ers, it is surprising the club have not 19, 20, playing in Liverpool's first asked him to hand on some advice,

GREY MIGHT be the new black this

season for the followers of fashion but

followers of Scottish football have

seen blue replace maroon, with Kil-

marnock becoming the new Hearts.

cial club to challenge Rangers dur-

ing their period of domination, with

Aberdeen and then Motherweil

were in disarray Last season Hearts

challenged both Rangers and Celtic

This season Bobby Williamson

has taken Kilmarnock a step further.

A Scottish Cup triumph 19 months

ago has been followed by a Uefa Cup

place and now the Ayrshire side are

joint top of the Premier League with

Rangers and just one goal behind as

they prepare for today's trip to Ibrox.

striker, has astounded everyone at

Rugby Park. With an average gate of

9,000, Kilmarnock will never be able

to compete with the Glasgow giants

in the transfer market, but Williamson

pulled off a signing coup in the sum-

mer when he attracted Ally McCoist

Both were huge influences in

Rangers' decade of domination and

and Ian Durrant to the club.

Williamson, a former Rangers

until the final weeks of the season.

taking up the gauntlet while Celtic

The vogue has been for a provin-

Kilmarnock ready to

run with the giants

ers like Giggs and Fowler. I thought I think the young 'uns realise they cannot do those things. There's so wool?', but, never mind, I would not much money involved in the game, if they've any sense they look after

Refreshingly, Hutchison seems genuinely astonished how much players can now earn, which is per-

team. You go out and think you can but he adds: "The game's changed was once fined by Liverpool for palled up with Redknapp, who was son and he knew most of the opposition, so he was not likely to get "sorted out", but Graeme Souness,

Giving his football a chance at last: Don Hutchison has finally emerged from troubled times to build a promising career with Everton at Goodison

ne 2 one

unsurprisingly, took a dim view of it. It was Souness who gave Hutchison his chance at Liverpool in 1992, the Geordie having been signed as a teenager by Kenny Dalglish two years earlier on the strength of 24 matches for Hartlepool. He quickly

mouse, I didn't know what to say. Even when Kenny spoke I couldn't understand him. I just put a fake laugh on or tried to pretend I knew what he was on about. It was brilliant though, he's a nice bloke."

When things went sour at Liverthan a cup of tea at Everton's do what your mates do but you since I got up to that sort of stuff. risking injury by playing in a pub also living in digs, and was soon in- pool, Redknapp recommended Bellefield training ground. "I don't can't. It was after that the Liverpools Every week there's an article in the match. In truth, it was the off-sea-vited to Dalglish's house for dinner. Hutchison to his father and he dad," recalls Hutchison, "and we 23 games helped keep West Ham up for that incident [in Cyprus] than for were invited round to see games on in 1995 but, recalls Harry Redknapp TV. I just sat there as quiet as in his recent autobiography, all did not go well. After recounting a have done things that were out of dressing-room incident which ended order. Players should be judged on with the manager throwing a plate their football." of sandwiches over the player, Redknapp wrote of Hutchison: "his tal-

had at West Ham at the time could be a handful and Don was easily led. He went off the rails a bit."

Hutchison ("I haven't got a bad word for West Ham"), moved on to Sheffield and Kendall of whom he said: "I can't speak highly enough of him, so lively and enthusiastic."

Even so, it is only now he is consistently showing his very best form - he rates sixth in the Premiership in the Carling Opta rankings. Hutchison cannot explain why, though he admits confidence is a factor. A footballer's confidence is a fragile matter and, in a modern twist on the old tale of a player being shattered by getting a four in the Sunday People's marks out of 10, Hutchison said winning Sky's Man of the Match award for the recent televised win over Newcastle was a "big boost".

Though he dismisses the theory, the burden of expectation from being a club-record signing at both West Ham and Sheffield United may not have helped, nor being played out of position. Now, having begun the season wide-right, he has secured his preferred central mid-

Glenn Hoddle and Ray Wilkins were his childhood influences and he cites passing as his main strength (and lack of pace his biggest weakness). He also has a

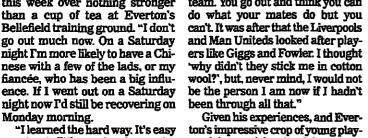
'The game's changed since I got up to that sort of stuff. I think the young 'uns realise they cannot do those things'

bite in the tackle, as too many yellow cards testify ("but none for six matches"), and scores the odd goal. Scotland are not over-supplied with players and Hutchison hopes to revive an international career which, to date, numbers a solitary B international. To do so he will have to convince a coaching hierarchy which places a heavy emphasis on behaviour that he is now a responsible professional.

Playing alongside Collins and under Walter Smith will help, but only by ensuring future headlines are about his football can he do so.

The danger in writing these "reformed bad-boy" pieces is that the subject will make the article look foolish with a relapse. Hutchison ap pears a genuine convert though the fact that, as you talk to him, you think "he'd be good company over a pint" raises an element of doubt. my football, but it was years ago. So many great players in the past

It is now up to Hutchison to continue to give his football a change o ent is not in doubt, but the crowd I be heard.



hans to be expected of someone who



McCoist: Brought new life

new life on and off the field. As players they are showing they still have something to offer and they are the focus of attention in the dressing Paul Wright and Jerome Vareille room with their particular brand of

high spirits and humour. It was thought the emotional trauma would ensure that neither would ever play against Rangers but both are looking forward to running out again in front of a full house at Ibrox and Williamson has no doubts as to their commitment.

"They are professional people and we are the ones who are paying their wages," he said. "Ian Durrant has been turning in some great performances for us and he will relish the chance of going there and showing his mates what a good player he is."

Kilmarnock's rise has not been achieved with just two players and Williamson's brand of alchemy has been to transform bit players and journeymen into stars. Gary Holt began his career in the British Army before joining Celtic when Lou Macari was the manager. After leaving without playing a first-team game his career was undistinat Kilmarnock they have injected guished before his performances of

attention of Craig Brown, the Scotland manager. Mark Reilly, an influential midfielder left in the summer for Reading but has since

have formed a potent striking partnership to the extent that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. This afternoon's game will represent the biggest test so far with many people expecting, indeed wait-

ing, for them to fall flat, a situation Williamson knows all about. "They have been waiting a long time now," he said. "Since I took over they have been saying it can't continue but why can't it? We've got good players here, they are very consci-entious and they work hard so I don't see why it should burst if there is a

so-called bubble." Williamson is about to find out how difficult it is for smaller clubs to compete for the League. Aberdeen, Motherwell and Hearts all won a cup around the time they rode high in the League but found the demands of a campaign bit deeply into their resources. Kilmarnock, too, have limitations.

"That's the way it is - Rangers

could turn round and buy half our team if they wanted to and we'd probably have to sell," Williamson said. "But who knows what can happen in football. We just have to keep continuing to do what we do and produce good players to have

any chance against the Old Firm. "However, we have seen Rangers demolish St Johnstone 7-0 and they beat us 3-1 down here. We've seen how dangerous they can be and on Saturday we'll have to be guarded because we know if we don't play as well as we can we could be on the wrong end of a serious hammering."

Perhaps, as Aberdeen proved in the 80s, provincial sides have to go to Glasgow and win if they are ever to compete with Rangers and Celtic. By tonight Williamson and his team will have a greater appreciation of

Managers taking note not to lose their heads

where England players will place their hard-earned caps because, according to Glenn Hoddle, they might either have "their winning heads on", "their aggressive heads on" or "their sensible heads on". Sometimes, they have nothing above their shoulders at all, which is probably why Graham Taylor once referred to them as "headless chickens". That is what being the England manager does to a man's

grasp of anatomy. There were no such problems for Hoddle in his days as Chelsea manager because, when it came to communication, he only ever had one head on - his writing head. Admittedly, his column in the matchday programme could become a bit precious in its homage to "playing football the right way" – especial-ly when, in his first 18 months at Chelsea, the "right way" tended to mean short pass, short pass, backpass, short pass and then, as the opposition settled down for a game of cards, hoof it into the box from the halfway line. That apart, though, his programme notes were an oasis of sanity - neither paranoid after defeat nor gloating in victory. Here was a man who could keep his head while all around him people

were changing theirs. You can tell a lot about a manager from his programme notes. Take John Hollins, in charge at Chelsea between 1985 and 1988, who increasingly came to resemble the demented policeman played by Herbert Lom in The Pink Panther. Here is one revealing passage, taken from a matchday column in 1986: "It takes two teams to make a great game of football and one of the teams was Chelsea and we were 3-2 in front. There were a lot of good points, as I said, the only

NOWADAYS THERE is no saying thing is you look at the end result. lesson had been learned; operating we would have won 3-2..." The punchline was still to come: "But

we didn't, we lost 5-3." way, his cunning plan to outfox opposing managers by leaving all his best players out of the team having mysteriously backfired. In his place came Bobby Campbell, a manager blessed with resilience and integrity but also a gift for philosophy at which Eric Cantona would have marvelled.

Campbell did not just adorn his

FAN'S EYE **VIEW**

CHELSEA

BY MATTHEW ROWAN

programme notes with wise sayings, he would get them printed in capital letters. "A bottle of Scotch can be either half empty or half full," he shouted from the top of one column. The reader's reaction was to finish the bottle off for him. However, worse was to come because Campbell did not do things by halves.

In one crucial relegation match at Upton Park, Chelsea had gone down 4-1 and replaced West Ham in the danger zone. But all was explained in Campbell's programme notes for the following home game. "It's all psychological," he reasoned. "The man with half a loaf doesn't fight as hard as the man without any bread."

Chelsea were relegated but the

If the game had been 80 minutes on a yeast-free diet, they bounced back up again with a record num-ber of points. West Ham, meanwhile, clearly spent the close Eventually, Hollins was on his season dining out on bread, croissants and sweet pastries; the fol-

lowing May they were relegated. Campbell's philosophy was vindicated and a variety of cliches went on to make more comebacks than Peter Shilton. Among these, in the wake of one particularly poor performance, was "we weren't at the races". On one hand it could be seen as a denial: "we weren't at the races... honest!" On the other hand, it was the early stages of a mystery story, "we weren't on the pitch, we weren't at the races, so where the hell were we?" Either way, it was clear just who had been at the Scotch in the first place.

And so to more recent times and a man who evokes the celebrated film Being There. You may recall the Peter Sellers character who deals in horticultural homilies but, thanks to his impassive face and understated delivery, manages to convince world leaders that he has the answer to everything.

You have got it. Chancey Gardiner is Ruud Gullit - the "Dutch master" whose every "also", "for sure" and "that is normal" is viewed as a philosophical gem by dint of his dreadlocks, laid-back demeanour and just slightly-flawed linguistic skills. We swooned at his matchday column when he declared sagely that "a good striker needs only one piece of action". We swooned when Gianluca Vialli took his one piece of action ... and blazed it high over an open goal.

So say what you like about Chelsea, but when it came to sexy programme notes, we were the

European clubs to generate £375m jackpot

rights for the new-look European club competitions will generate £375m, and bonuses will be paid based on results for the 32 clubs engaged in the Champions' League. A further £130m is to be distrib-

uted on the basis of each club's abil-

ity to generate funds by television

TELEVISION AND marketing power which has won all its matches could scoop up to £32.5m.

Uefa also confirmed vesterday that the European Cup-Winners' Cup would not take place after this season, with the revamped Champions' League and Uefa Cup launched next year. The 32-team Champions' Cup has been introduced in a bid to rights. Uefa calculated that on this basis, a club with the best pulling ropean Super League.

Uefa said it was determined not to repeat the mistakes that blighted the ticketing arrangements for this summer's World Cup finals. Guido Tognoni, the head of Uefa's National Teams Department, said: "The third of every stadium will be filled with the fans of the competing teams.

against the hosts Belgium or the Netherlands, the fans of the opposing country will receive 20 per cent of the tickets."

Tognoni added that there will be ticket allocation will ensure that a a maximum allocation of four tickets per applicant and that the sale of tickets to corporate organisa-"At least 16 per cent of all tickets tions will be kept to a realistic minwill go to the competing teams, but imum.

مكذا من الاحل

Southampton!

Weekend guide to the Premiership



Tottenham v Manchester Utd 🔞

Last season: 0-2



IT IS NOT often that you find opposition man- BY BRUCE POPE agers admitting they are delighted for Man-chester United, but George Graham has owned up to being pleased for fellow-Scot Alex Ferguson that United are still on course for Champions' League success.

"I know Alex well and I was pleased for him because I know how important Europe is for him." said Graham. "If he wins the European Cup he will be up there with Busby, Shankly and Stein."

While Graham's feelings are genuine of Rupert Murdoch, who must be positively drooling with expectation by now, give or take a Monopolies and Mergers Commission - the good-

The season of red cards

will of Spurs' new saviour will evaporate in double-quick time should Tottenham not reneat the recent 3-1 Worthington Cup result over their today's guests.

There have been the usual comments about United fielding a second-string team that night, but the United reserves do tend to have more caps than the average first team. What really made the difference for Tottenham was the sudden transformation of although probably incomparable to the joy David Ginola (left) from mere mercurial talent into the demon crosser of North London.

While the Premiership-strength United defence will prove a tougher nut to crack, Chris Armstrong has revelled in the service

DISMISSALS IN the Premiership are still running at the same record levels as last

season – an average of one red card every five top-flight games. Already Premiership players have accumulated more red cards than they did in the

Red cards

30 given already and still two booking weeks to Christmas!

14.1

Steffen Iversen ruled out with a broken jaw sustained in last week's 2-1 win over Liverpool, the chances are that Les Ferdinand. no mean header of the ball himself, will get the chance to feast on French silver service.

United are not without their own left-wing wooder, however, and Ryan Giggs (right) will be in direct comparison. With David Beckbe turned to Giggs' sometimes erratic crossing, but there are few who can ignore the threat of the Welshman in full flight.

The recipients up front are in question, though, with Dwight Yorke doubtful having limped off against Bayern Munich. No doubt reluctant to break up the fruitful partnership

he has received from Ginola on the left. With with Andy Cole, Ferguson will make a late decision on his record purchase, with Ole Gunnar Solskaer the likely replacement.

Nevertheless, it is not unheard of for Giggs to get the call as a striker, and there is also Paul Scholes and Teddy Sheringham, and an appearance by Sheringham always gives White Hart Lane a chance to sing some of its favourite songs. The only other injury conham the main byline outlet, a blind eye can cern is Denis Irwin, concussed on Wednesday night following a clash of heads. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (from): Walker, Carr, Calderwo Nielsen, Fox, Anderson, Ferdinand, Armstrong, Ginola, Sci Allen, Sinton, Campbell, Clemence, Wilson, Young, Gov

MANCHESTER UNITED (from); Schmeichel, Brown, Stam, G Neville, Irwin, Berkham, Keane, Scholes, Giggs. Cole, Yorke, Solskjaer, Burt, Berg, P Neville, Blomqvist, Sneringham, van der Gow





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Blackburn v Newcastle

BLACKBURN'S MANAGER Brian Kidd looks certain to disturb the line-up that gave him his 100 per cent success record as a Premier League manager by bringing him victory over Charlton last week in his first game. Kevin Davies, inspired by his new manager to score for Royers for the first time since his £7.25m from Southampton in the summer, may even get another chance to shine. Captain Tim Sherwood and defender Jeff Kenna are likely to return and there is also a chance of England winger Jason Wilcox coming back, but Kidd will be without injured strikers Kevin Gallacher and Chris Sutton. Sherwood, available again after suspension, will probably replace David Dunn. Gary Croft's position looks in jeopardy now Kenna is back.

Newcastle will be without goalkeeper Shay Given. The Irish international has failed to recover from a shoulder injury picked up a fortnight ago so Steve Harper, man of the match at Middlesbrough last week, will continue to deputise. Captain Rob Lee serves a one-match suspension while a question mark still hangs over Alan Shearer, due to his hamstring problems. BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): Fettis, Davidson, Henchoz, Dailly, Croft, Johnson, Dunn, McKinlay, Duff, Blake, Davies, Williams, Broomes, Marcolin, Taylor, Sherwood, Marcolin, Marc

NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): Harper, Perez, Barton, Charvec, Howey, Hughes. Dabizas, Pearce, Griffin, Speed, Hammann, Glass, Solano, Gillespie, Ferguson, Andersson, Dalglish, Albert.



Derby v Chelsea

DERBY'S MIDFIELDER Stefano Eranio made his comeback against Arsenal last week and now Francesco Baiano is ready to join him in the starting line-up against Chelsea. The former Fiorentina striker has recovered from a groin injury and could return to aid Derby's efforts to secure a first home win since September. Captain Igor Stimac is still out with an ankle problem and Danish defender Jacob Laursen has a back problem which kept him from training yesterday. Lee Carsley is suspended.

Chelsea player-manager Gianlica Vialli has a near full-Wednesday's 2-1 win over Premiership leaders Aston Villa unscathed and only long-term casualties Eddie Newton and Pierluigi Casiraghi remain on the injured list. Newton is still recovering from a foot injury but could be given a run-out in the reserves next week, his first match since October. Captain Dennis Wise is available for selection as his three-match ban following his sending-off against Everton does not take effect

DERBY COUNTY (from): Poom, Prior, Carbonari, Laursen, Delap, Powell, Bohlnen, Dorigo, Eranio, Baiano, Wanchope, Sturridge, Hoult, Schnoor, Harper, Elliott.
CMELSEA (from): Vialli, Petrescu, Di Matteo, Zola, Leboeul, De Goey, Babayaro, Desality, Poyet, Flo. Wise, Le Saux, Kharine, Goldbaek, Hirchcock, Ferrer, Duberry, Lychourde, Nicholis, Morris.



Everton v Southampton

MIKAEL MADAR looks like being given the chance to start his first senior game of the season for Everton as a replacement for suspended Danny Cadamarteri. The Frenchman has been named in a squad that also includes Michael Branch, just back from a loan spell at Manchester City. Slaven Bilic is also included, along with Dave Unsworth, who has completed a one match ban, and manager Walter Smith will have to chose between the pair if Craig Short fails to recover from a calf injury. Olivier Da-court could also challenge for Tony Grant's midfield place.

Southampton's Carlton Paimer misses the match suspended. Moroccan midfielder Hassan Kachloul is in contention to start his second game for Saints. Richard Dryden is fit after a groin injury but Francis Benali out for six to eight weeks with a broken arm. Danish goalkeeper Michael Stensgaard is included in the squad for the first time after receiving international clearance but Ken Monkou is still troubled by a thigh problem. David Hirst, David Howells, David Hughes and John Beresford are all out with long-term injuries.



Leicester v **Nottingham Forest**

Suspension: Everton: Cadamarteri, Soptinampton: Paimer.

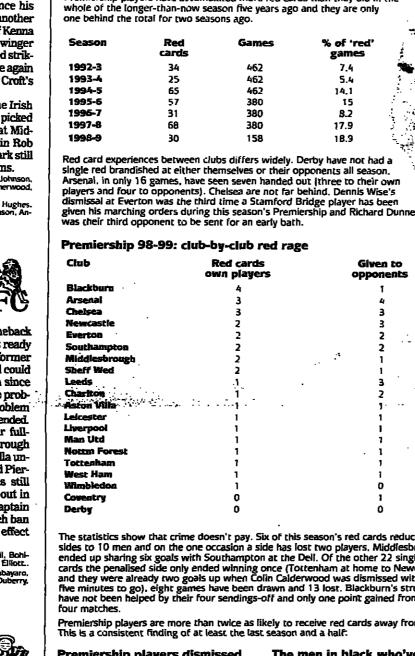
Last season: No fixture

THE LEICESTER manager Martin O'Neill has defensive problems ahead of the East Midlands derby against Nottingham Forest, Frank Sinclair misses the game through suspension while veteran defender Steve Walsh is rated as doubtful with a leg injury. O'Neill's squad is strengthened by the return of Swedish international Pontus Kamark, who has recovered from an Achilles tendon injury but Tony Cottee (thigh) is still out.

Jesper Mattsson could be poised for a swift introduction to Nottingham Forest's Premiership survival fight. Dave Bassett is toying with the idea of pushing his new £300,000 signing into the limelight against the Foxes at Filbert Street. He had initially indicated he would give the 30-year-old central defender time to settle down but has been so impressed with Mattsson's attitude since he completed his move from Halmstad on Wednesday, that he could line up against Leicester at DAVID O'LEARY has secured his second fender Halle has committed himself to a world beater to a carpet beater." Strachan the expense of Craig Armstrong. The last time Leicester did a League double over Forest, in the 1971-82 season, Forest were

relegated.

LEICESTER CITY (from): Keller, Savage, Kamark, Elliott, Uliathome, Walsh, GupLEICESTER CITY (from): Keller, Savage, Kamark, Elliott, Uliathome, Walsh, GupDy, Zagorakis, Impey, Izzet, Lennon, Heskey, Fenton, Taggart, Wilson, Campbell, ParkDy, Zagorakis, Impey, Izzet, Lennon, Heskey, Fenton, Taggart, Wilson, Campbell, ParkDy, Zagorakis, Impey, Izzet, Lennon, Heskey, Fenton, Taggart, Wilson, Campbell, ParkTHOMAS FOREST (from): Beassant, Stone, Bonalair, Rogers, Chette, Hjelde,
Therman, Matteson, Gemmill, Quashle, Bart-Milliams, Johnson, Darcheville,
Therman, Van Hoosjdonk, Harewood, Shipperley, Gray, Crossley,
Therman, Charles, Charles



Sheff Wed Notem Forest Tottesham West Ham Coventry The statistics show that crime doesn't pay. Six of this season's red cards reduced both sides to 10 men and on the one occasion a side has lost two players. Middlesbrough ended up sharing six goals with Southampton at the Dell. Of the other 22 single red cards the penalised side only ended winning once (Tottenham at home to Newcastle and they were already two goals up when Colin Calderwood was dismissed with only five minutes to go), eight games have been drawn and 13 lost. Blackburn's struggles have not been helped by their four sendings-off and only one point gained from those Premiership players are more than twice as likely to receive red cards away from home. This is a consistent finding of at least the last season and a half: Premiership players dismissed The men in black who've given red this season Away 22 Season 97-98 J Winter Season 98-99 (so far) 9 P Alcock N Barry M Riley 3 cards: A Wilkie P Jones D Elleray The pressures may be on players far more Disciplinarian to get coveted points away from home. Referees may have pressures to avoid G Barber U Rennie Paul Alcock, P Durkin S Lodge upsetting home crowds. A comparison with the First Division of the Nationwide. whose four red G Poll D Gallaghe cards make him G Willard the joint strictest R Harris man in black this season. Mike Reed, who lets no one Statistics: Brian Sears / Nick Harris give him the runaround, is a 21 also on four. 17 First divisio 31 A match made for red cards teams selected from the 30 players sent off this season



MONDAY NIGHT'S GAME (8.0)

Leeds United v Coventry City

Last season: 3-3

coup of the week by tying Nigel Martyn, Lucas Radebe and Gunnar Halle to Leeds for the rest of their careers. The move follows £4.4m signing of David Batty, who could make his debut against Coventry on record Monday's opponents - with just four Monday. England goalkeeper Martyn, 32, wins in 16 matches - must envy. Coventry's manager Gordon Strachan has called on has signed a three-and-a-half year deal while South African Radebe has extended Darren Huckerby to be more consistent, his contract until June 2003. Norwegian desaying his striker ranges from being "a

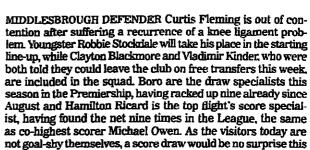
further two years at the club. "I am so de- admitted he cannot afford to spend the full lighted," said O'Leary. "This has been a £6.75m fee he received for Dion Dublin but very good week for us." In their last three insists he needs to spend at least that much games, Leeds have scored 10 goals, a to buy someone better than his current strike pair Huckerby and Noel Whelan. "Both Noel and Darren can do anything they want in football, but at the moment they're inconsistent and they've got to try and find much more consistency," he said.



afternoon.

Middlesbrough v **West Ham**

Last season: No fixture



Chilean international defender Javier Margas has a hip injury and is out of contention for West Ham. The absence of Margas means a return to the squad for Julian Dicks. The England defender Rio Ferdinand also returns from injury. Paul Kitson (toe) and Eyal Berkovic (calf) remain on the treatment table, while young striker Lee Boylan (medial ligaments) and defender Tim Breacker (flu) do not travel either.

WEST HAM UNITED (from): Hislop, Potts, Ruddock, Keller, Sinclair, Hartson, Lomas, Wright, Ferdinand, Moncur, Lazaridis, Lampard, Pearce, Omoymini, Etherington, Forrest.



Chariton



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY have begun to consider manager Danny Wilson's blood pressure recently with a run of form that has seen a slow climb away from the relegation places. Charlton, meanwhile, have slid in the opposite direction, not helped by losing to fellow strugglers Everton and then Blackburn, and must try to stop the rot at Hillsborough today.

Wilson is reluctant to make his first changes in five games and will leave selection as late as possible. His main doubts are defender Des Walker, suffering from a virus that affected Monday night's 3-2 win against Nottingham For est, and midfielder Petter Rudi - also feeling the effects of a similar illness. Yugoslavian international Dejan Stefanovic is possibly in contention for his first start of the season, while Ritchie Humphreys could be among the options in midfield. Charlton midfilder Paul Mortimer, substituted during last

weekend's 1-0 defeat against Blackburn with an ankle injury. also faces a late fitness test, but he is manager Alan Curbishley's only major fitness worry.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from): Smicel, Atherton, Hinchcliffe, Walker. Thome, Rudi, Johk, Sonner, Alexandersson, Carbone, Booth, Clarke, Saneto, Humphreys, Briscoe, Stefanovic, Magilton.

CHARLTON ATHERTIC (from): lifc, Petterson, Mills, Powell, Tiler, Redfearn, Youds, Rufus, Kinsella, Robinson, Newton, Hunt, Mendonca, Mortimer, Brown, S Jones, K Jones, Lisble, Bright, Parker, Barness, Royce.

Contrangibles Hillerhanders City (Falls, Staniforth, Charltone, None) esday: Di Cardo, Staniforth, Chariton: None Referee: D Gallagher.

TOMORROW'S GAMES



Aston Villa v Arsenal



JOHN GREGORY, the Aston Villa manager, will want to avoid a second dose of capital punishment in a week when Arsenal visit Villa Park tomorrow. On Wednesday night Chelsea sneaked a 2-1 win with a last-minute winner and now Villa face another London club with its tail up. While Villa were suffering at Stamford Bridge, a depleted Gunners were cheering Arsène Wenger by derailing Panathinaikos in Athens.

Wenger expects to have Dennis Bergkamp, Marc Overmars and Martin Keown back from injury, while Lee Dixon, Ray Parlour and Fredrik Ljungberg, suspended or ineligible for the Champions' League tie, will also be available. But there are doubts over Patrick Vieira, while Stephen Hughes, Nigel Winterburn, Emmanuel Petit and Tony Adams are definitely out.

Gregory has his own injury concerns, with England midfielder Paul Merson still suffering from a back injury. Alan Thompson is expected to continue for Merson, while striker Stan Collymore will be pressing for a return to the starting line-up after making his comeback as a substitute against Chelsea.

ASTON VILLA (from): Oakes, Watson. Ehiogu. Southgate, Barry, Wright, Hendne, Taylor. Thompson. Dublin, Joachum. Collymore: Charles, Grayson. Lescott. Rachel. ARSENAL (from): Seaman, Manninger, Divon, Vivas, Bould, Keown, Upson. Chrimandi, Garde, Grondin, Parlour, Ljungberg, Overmars, Vieira, Berghamp, Anelka. mandi, Garde, Ore Wreh, Boa Morte, Referee. 5 Lodge.



Wimbledon v Liverpool



AS GERARD HOULLIER embarks on his rebuilding programme for Liverpool, one of his new signings may make his first team debut tomorrow. Jean-Michel Ferri, Houllier's fellow Frenchman, made his club debut in the reserves on Thursday, playing for 76 minutes against Birmingham. He could feature in the squad tomorrow, though a place on the substitutes' bench seems most likely. Liverpool also welcome back three players after suspension, Jamie Redknapp, Paul Ince and Vegard Heggem.

Wimbledon are also free of suspensions. Carl Leaburn remains the only problem for the Wimbledon manager, Joe Kinnear Leaburn missed out on the victory over Coventry last weekend and is rated as 50-50. However, Kinnear will welcome the return to fitness of Jon Goodman, Stewart Castledine and Ceri Hughes. The trio did not play in a midweek reserve game and are expected to feature in first team matches over the next

WINNELEDON (from): Suflivan, Cunningham, Kimble, Blackwell, Thatcher, M Hughes, Earle, Ekoku, Roberts, Gayle, Ardley, Heald, Goodman, Leaburn, C Hughes, Court Ainsworth, Perry, Castledine, Euell, Kennedy. LIVERPOOL (from): James, McAteer, Heggern, Carragher, Scaunton, Babb, Matteo, Bjornebye, Murphy, Gerrard, Redknapp, Ince, Thompson, Berger, Riedle, Owen, Fowler, Harkness, Fredel.





SPORT



THE GOOD TIMES OF HUTCHISON P30 ● RICHARD WILLIAMS ON THE DRUGS WAR P23

Chelsea look for inner strength

AS ALEX FERGUSON luxuriated in Manchester United's qualification for the quarter- BY GUY HODGSON finals of the European Cup on Wednesday, mixed news reached him. On the one hand he was delighted the Premiership leaders Aston Villa had Chelsea were the victors.

United will reach the summit today if they beat Tottenham ourselves through it and win." Hotspur at White Hart Lane, but anything less could concede the higher ground to Chelsea, whose win in midweek suddenly projected them from the chasing pack. Indeed, if the Londoners had defeated Everton last week, as they should have done, they would already be top.

Wednesday's success extended Chelsea's unbeaten League run to 14 matches, and today they take that record to ling to Old Trafford next Wednesday. If Chelsea take six points from those two games rivals will no longer be able to discount them as a cup team lacking the consistency to do their talents justice in the

tiredness and euphoria generated in defeating Aston Villa. "The Villa game took a lot out of everybody," Graeme Le Saux said. "but it's important. whether it's a draw or a win. that we get something at Derby to make Wednesday's performance a good one and set us up

FOOTBALL

to play Manchester United next week. It's going to be hard game. I'm sure Derby think we'll be a bit fatigued, so it's up been beaten. On the other, to us to be resilient, strong and workmanlike in our performance and make sure we pull

> Manchester United have also suffered hangovers after heady midweek nights and nine of the 16 league points dropped have come in matches immediately after European matches. Ferguson has wondered out loud whether his players can cope with the twin demands and you suspect he would have chosen many teams to visit today ahead of the resurgent Spurs.

Tottenham beat United 3-1 in Derby County before travel- the Worthington Cup 10 days ago but that result does not provide the usual injection of confidence as Ferguson played his reserves that night. Today it will be the real thing, or at least they hope it will be.

"We haven't done that well after European games," Gary Today they must forget the Neville, their England defender, said, "and we've got to put it right. We can't afford to lose games now."

David Ginola is the man most likely to disappoint Neville and yesterday the Frenchman pledged his future with Spurs. "I want to feel at home here, to stay and help Tottenham to

Since George Graham arrived, we're playing better with every

Brian Kidd, who until last week would have anticipated being at White Hart Lane today trying to tease more from United's tired limbs, will instead be hoping to extend a 100 per cent record as Blackburn Rovers manager to two matches against a Newcastle United side the supporters enjoy de-

feating as much as anyone.

Not that they have antipathy for Newcastle, it's just that Alan Shearer's transfer from Ewood Park to St James' Park is considered to be the start of Rovers' decline. The England captain is likely to be fit to take his place in a much-anticipated partnership with Duncan Ferguson that has been delayed by a hamstring injury.

"Some people might say Newcastle have under-achieved," Kidd said, "but that's not our problem. All we can do is concentrate on the things we are doing and hope we get the breaks and results. There's no hiding place for us." A win will move Blackburn

out of the relegation places, but there will be no similar respite for Southampton even if they prevail against Everton at Goodison. The Saints could move off the bottom, however, if they succeed and Nottingham Forest lose at Leicester City.

Goodison Park has suffered a goal drought this season and

the top of the League," he said. it is likely to continue as Everton have scored just twice at home and Southampton have gone only one better on their travels. But there is no truth in the rumour that the golden goal competition has been converted into the golden corner for this one.

Nerves will be on edge, too, at Hillsborough, where Sheffield Wednesday and Charlton Athletic meet knowing they are both just a few slips from trouble. Wednesday have lost only one of their last eight Premiership matches but are still seventh from bottom while today's visitors have lost their last three and have not won in six matches.

Middlesbrough are another who have not won too often, but their secret is that they do not lose many either and Sunday's match with Newcastle was their ninth draw of the season. West Ham, whose rise to second place was greeted with a 4-0 thumping at Leeds last

Aston Villa have taken only two points from the last 12 but showed they could still be title contenders in two close matches with Manchester United and Chelsea. The fixture list gets no kinder because the champions, Arsenal, are the visitors to Villa Park tomorrow, while Liverpool, who are suffering a crisis of confidence, have a difficult trip to their frequent bête noires, Wimbledon.

Good times for Hutchison.



yesterday. Langer hatted for over five hours in temperatures of 110F

THE SATURDAY CROSSWORD

No.3792 Saturday 12 December By Spurius

ACROSS

Source of cash for giv- 1 ing good time to daugh-He has his price for letcrowd (6,4)

Notorious old lady occupies apartment (8) 11 A full stomach you get north of the Border (6) 12 Grant for connecting cable to electricity sup-

ply (6) 13 Husband thought road could lead to refuge (8) Game reserve? (9,4) 18 Rare stamp's one left for David (8)

20 Offensive action by retreating American officer (6)
22 Underworld member to

get rid of hardware (6)
Current method of
blending in ginger (8)
Scrappy note uncarthed
down below (10) Singer, Irish, about to jump off bridge in Venice (4)

DOWN

Bishop in Paris club condemned humble drinking establishments (6,4)

soldier into trouble (6) Best ride, in a word (8) Satisfied with small house, Duke comes to an orderly arrangement (6) Marks corruption of

magistrate almost right away (8) Around first half of June one fellow's to climb a mountain (4) Where form-fillers

live? (9,4) Certain pH value found in Italy, a link that's been re-estab-lished (10)

16 Discharged, being by no means rich? (8) Mean to trap West Indian tyro in conditions of poor visibility (8) Greek character entering mine improperly

rotected (6) 21 Isinglass reportedly of-fered for sweet? (6) 23 Island held by nation-

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: T James, Christchurch; J Kitchen, Blackheath; E Crossley, Put-next Will S Bordey, Dies: H Madday, Stratholytic

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ACB launches betting inquiry

THE AUSTRALIAN Cricket Board said yesterday it will launch an independent inquiry into whether any of Australia's current squad have been involved with bookmakers or betting on cricket.

However, the ACB said the inquiry into the 25-strong squad would not include the payments made by an Indian bookmaker to Shane Warne and Mark Waugh in exchange for pitch

and weather conditions in 1994. The ACB said the 1994 matter was now closed, but each of Australia's contracted Test and one-day players – including Waugh and Warne - will be asked if they have been involved with "bookmakers or cricket betting".

CRICKET BY BERNARD HICKEY in Adelaide

The decision to launch an inquiry came after media reports that bookmakers had approached the former Australian Test off-spinner Greg Matthews and New Zealand's

Danny Morrison. "The first thing to do is to expand our level of inquiry to make sure there aren't any sleepers around," the ACB

chairman, Denis Rogers, said. The ACB inquiry, possibly headed by a judge, will start after the third Test between Australia and England.

Yesterday, The Dominion

ported that Morrison had been invited to sell information during a home match against India four years ago. He said he had been offered \$1,000 (£600) by an Indian player to take a telephone call and provide information. "I just looked at him and said: 'Are you serious?'" Morri-

The Australian newspaper reported that Matthews had been approached by a man in Sri Lanka in 1992 and offered money to provide information, but that he had rejected the ap-

son said.

proach outright. Warne and Waugh have admitted being naïve and stupid in accepting money from the bookmaker, but denied they had

newspaper in New Zealand re- been involved in match-fixing or bribery and had not revealed details on team selections or match strategy.

The pressure of the scandal showed on spinner Waugh yesterday. After being booed and jeered as he walked in to bat' against England on the first day of the third Test in Adelaide, he lost his wicket for just seven runs.

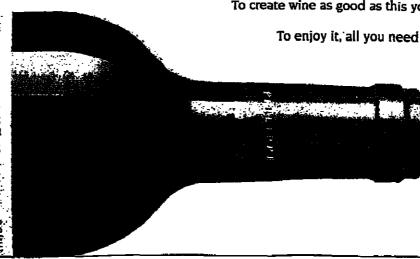
The ACB fined the pair a total of A\$18,000 (£7,200) in early 1995, but kept the incident quiet for almost four years.

The Pakistan Cricket Board have called for the ACB to release all information on the scandal to dispel any suggestion they were again sweeping the matter under the carpet.

L'ART DE L'ASSEMBLAGE by Baron Philippe de Rothschild



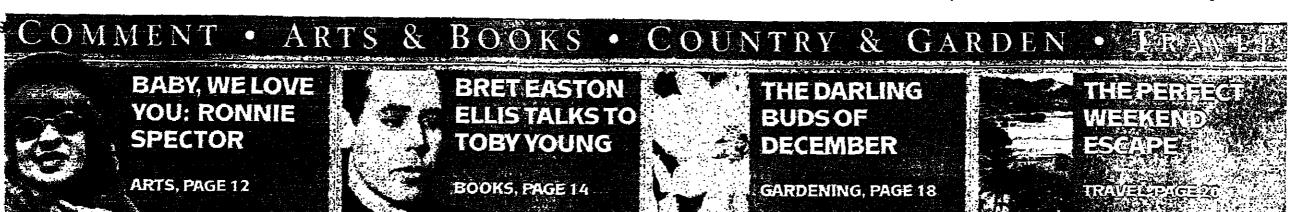


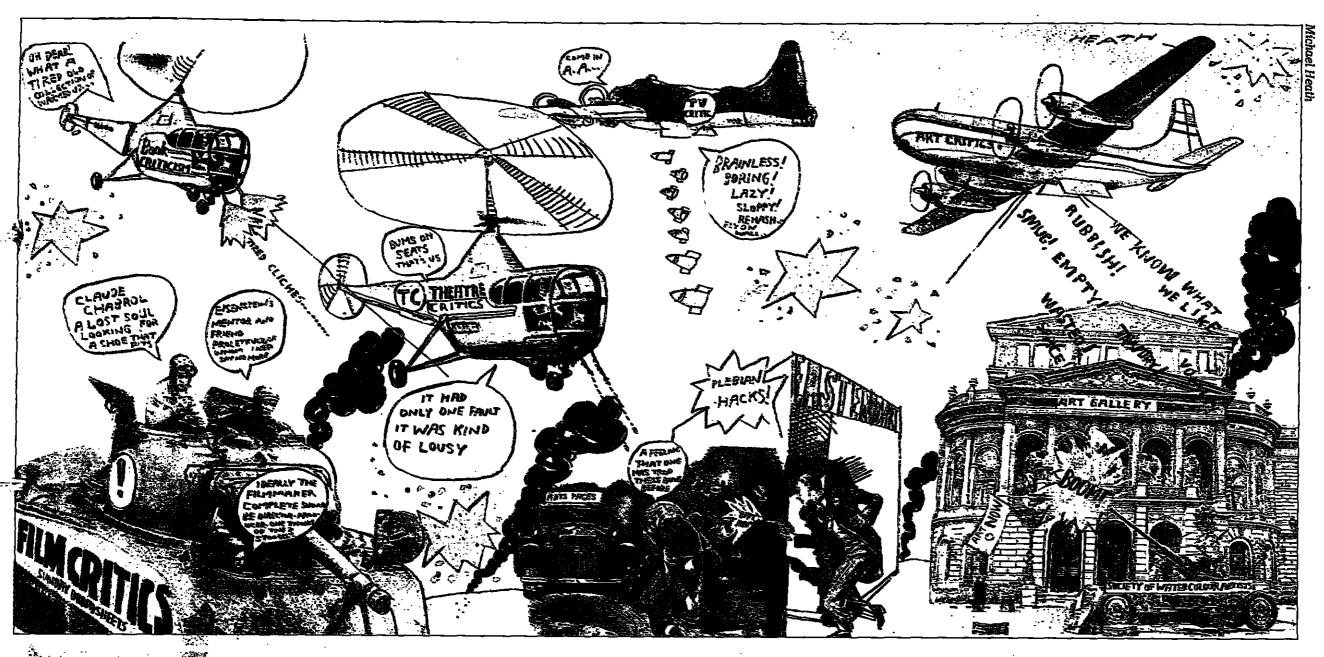


To create wine as good as this you need a tongue like a tuning fork. To enjoy it, all you need is a corkscrew and a friend,

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They are despised by artists ('Professional eunuchs') and distrusted by the public ('Why are they always so negative?"). To launch a major series on the Critical Condition, we begin, as they so often do, with a question ...

Vhoneeds critics?

One, shows mankind's first cave. He stands back to admire his work. Along comes mankind's first critic, who unzips his animal skin and pisses on it.

There is a large grain of truth in Brooks's joke. One of the origins of modern newspaper reviewing

— the cuttingest edge of criticism – are the "Zoilists" of the late-16th century. The name derives from Zoilus, the malignant critic of Homer. Zoilus was the man who dared say that the author of the Odyssey wasn't all that he was cracked up to be. It was the role of Zoilists (lovely word) to "carp" (another lovely word). Like their modern version, "flyters" (traders in literary insult), they had only one mission in critical life: to piss on the work of art. The only qualifications for the job were a full bladder and a brass neck.

Do we need these professional nay-sayers, lice on the locks of literature and art that they are? Yes, we certainly do. The rise of reviewing 300 years ago coincided with the birth of modern capitalism and all the sacred cows of English theatre (his most

ne of the funnier sketches in the commodification of the work of art. We don't just Mel Brooks's spoof epic, The read novels, watch films, scrutinise pictures, listen History of the World: Part to records. We buy them. Commercial literature. theatre, art, film swamp the market with many more artist daubing a prehistoric than we can buy. They want us not just to consume, mammoth on the wall of a but to over-consume: to spend, spend, spend until, like Monsieur Creosote in the Monty Python sketch, we explode in a shower of banknotes. If you believed the advertisements in the Review Section of The Independent, for example, you'd be watching 20 movies and reading 50 novels a week. Reviewing's main task is to cull the vast surplus of creative products in the marketplace to manageable proportions, to help us spend our time and money well. We need these modern-day Zoilists to piss on the latest offerings as an antidote to all that sunshine which the advertising industry, with all its millions, is blowing in our faces in order to get its

hands on our billions. Negative reviewing can, in fact, be constructive, if we take a long enough view on it. Kenneth Tynan made his name in the early Fifties as the London theatre critic on The Observer in that paper's pioneering Review section (the first to bundle together all the week's arts commentary). Typan made his name by dumping, with magnificent sarcasm, on

Welles's 1952 Othello: "Citizen Coon"). At the time as long as it's not their own neck on the block). Tynan looked like a smartypants on the make fresh

out of Oxford, and nothing more. With historical hindsight we can see that what he was doing was the equivalent of demolition. His broadside negativity was clearing the theatrical ground for the revolution that arrived at the Royal Court in 1957, with John Osborne's Look Back in Anger. Everyone remembers Osborne. Harold Pinter is still going strong and so is Tom Stoppard.

BY JOHN SUTHERLAND

Their place in cultural history is secure. Tynan, regrettably, is already forgotten. No one, as they say, ever built a statue to a critic.

Zoilism - negative criticism - has always been resented by writers and artists. Those practitioners, that is, who feel the sharpness of the cutting edge on their throats and in their wallets. It's painful (not to say ruinous) if you have spent two years writing a novel, a year making a film, or six months mounting a West End production, exhibition or concert, to have some swine devastate it in 500 words

(and know that your friends are sniggering about

famous barb was his two-word critique of Orson it behind your back - everyone loves a hatchet job

The rage of criticised artists is legendary. Ken Russell would appear on television with the Evening Standard's film critic, Alexander Walker, only if he (Russell) could bring a stick with him. Walker, as I recall, wisely declined the invitation - but he was right about Russell's movies. I daresay Damien Hirst fantasises about humanely (or perhaps not) slaughtering Brian Sewell and putting him on display in a vat of formaldehyde. In Waiting for Godot the two characters, Vladimir and Estragon, fall into a furious argument. They accuse each other of everything from mopery through to buggery. Finally Estragon brings out the ultimate insult: "Critic!"

No one can cap that. The allegation against reviewers is threefold: first, that so much of their criticism is so negative. Secondly, where innovation is concerned critics are routinely wrong. Picasso, they told us, was a fraud; James Joyce was another, and Samuel Beckett was the biggest fraud of all. Who is to say that in 50 years' time everyone won't be painting with elephant turds and wrapping the Sphinx up in tin-foil as if it were a Christmas turkey?

The third allegation is that critics are eunuchs. Those who can, create literature and art. Those who

can't create literature and art, criticise those who can. There's an element of truth in the charge. One of the most imaginative experiments in higher education is that currently being introduced in the literature department at Warwick University, under Jeremy Treglown ta man who, before he turned professor, was editor of the Times Literary Supplement

- a veritable tsar of criticism). Students following the new course will be required not just to criticise. but to make literature. Before pronouncing in all their sophomoric wisdom on, say, Shakespeare's sonnets, they will be required to write a half-decent Shakespearean sonnet. Or novels and plays. It goes back to that stern rule of TS Eliot's, that the only criticism which is any good is that written by artists themselves. To get the course off the ground, Treglown's department has recruited well beyond the usual academic suspects (including Germaine Greer, no female eunuch she).

In a larger sense, we can see that late-20thcentury divisions between creativity and criticism - what you might call the pissing distance - have widened to the dimensions of a gulf. It can be measured by going into any bookshop, for instance the new Borders in Oxford Street, flagship of yet another American invasion of our high streets. Continued on page 2

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Let us pray

Sir: I believe the time has come for a serious inquiry into the function and purpose of the BBC. It claims to be a public service broadcaster. Nothing could be further from the truth as far as religious broadcasting is concerned.

On Christmas Day on BBC television there is not a single act of worship. The housebound, the elderly and the hospitalised are thereby profoundly deprived. They are offered limitless entertainment but never a moment when they can join with countless thousands who will be at worship on that day.

The Director General and Board of Governors presumably have a duty to ensure that the foundational country are explored, examined, criticised and celebrated.

They have neglected that duty as far as Christmas is concerned. Why have they done so? CHRISTOPHER St ALBANS (The Right Rev Christopher Herbert, Bishop of St Albans) Abbey Gate House

St Albans, Hertfordshire

Give us our rights

Sir: Successive British governments have been proud of their record on human rights, but we still don't uphold Article 27 of the Universal Declaration: "Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author". In this country such

productions are treated as commodities. Publishers and producers can and do demand. under the 1988 Copyright Designs and Patents Act, that authors assign all their rights and waive their "moral rights" to be identified and to object to derogatory treatment of their work. Additionally, there are no moral rights whatever in the reporting of current affairs.

This is not just a question of authors' pride, or injured pockets. Moral rights provide framework for the

authenticity of all cultural works, including news reporting, in all forms, providing for their contents to pass between living, breathing human beings. It is thus also a question of confidence for consumers, and of the trustworthiness of the news which informs our democracy.

Moral rights are the foundation of intellectual property law in 13 of the 15 European Union states. Our own Copyright Act was contested vigorously by the Labour Party in opposition, but lobbying by media companies determined to resist legislation which hindered their outright ownership of "product" won the day. A moral rights regime in which concern for the authenticity of works is hared by pr authors would go a long way towards restoring the public's trust in newspapers.

We urge Tony Blair's Government to reform the law and call on the European Commission to harmonise towards the moral rights regime accepted by the majority of EU states. If action is not taken, and

deregulated media companies

continue to enjoy the power to

trade works and manipulate

them as they see fit, we risk seeing the English-language part of Europe's cultural and historical heritage passing into a shamelessly manipulated and commercialised imitation of itself. STEVE BELL JANE BOWN MAUREEN DUFFY MICHAEL FRAYN CHARLES GLASS MIKE JEMPSON CHRIS MULLIN MP ALAN PLATER PENNANT ROBERTS BAZ TAYLOR AIDAN WHITE JEANNETTE WINTERSON Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society London EC1

Bahrain views

Sir: While I appreciate that the main purpose of Fran Abrams' article "Britain's cosy relationship with torture state" (7 December) in

making allegations about the Bahrain government's human rights record was to raise questions about the British government's "ethical dimension" in its foreign policy, I cannot let it pass vithout comment.

Over the last two-and-ahalf years as ambassador in the UK, I have addressed the subject of human rights in Bahrain on many occasions with a wide range of people. Internationally, there is

general consensus that Bahrain has taken considerable steps to ensure that its citizens live in an open, liberal society. For the fourth year running

countries in the United Nations Report on Human Development. The Red Cro Bahrain and we are in consultation with many other

it has come top among Arab

non-governmental organisations. The Shura Council system which ensures that consultation takes place on all policy matters is endorsed by the Koran and is part of the Islamic culture, and the proper basis for an

evolutionary process. Bahrain has a highly developed health and education infrastructure. We respect religious freedom, are multicultural and have a free press.

We are a firm ally of the West, as was demonstrated throughout the Gulf war, and are hosts to Unscom.

Bahrain has enjoyed a long and historic relationship with the UK based on mutual respect and understanding. It is not helped by reporting which reflects unfairly on both countries. ABDUL AZIZ MUBARAK AL KHALIFA Ambassador Embassy of the State of Bahrain London SW7

Sir: Fran Abrams' articles do little but rehearse the well known mouthings of those Bahrain dissidents allowed to continue their unsavoury activities in London.

Bahrain has been a staunch friend to the United

Kingdom for many years and for your respected newspaper to repeat the invective preached by these dissidents against their own tolerant government does little to repay our many friends there. British forces were stationed in Bahrain until 1971 serving our own interests in the

region and since Saddam

Hussein's invasion of Kuwait

in 1990 the Bahrain government has been generous in its support for the world's stand against the madman in Baghdad. Bahrain is not an oil-rich

state and it has in the last three years suffered 41 deaths and eight million Bahrain dinars (£13m) of damage caused by foreignfinanced extremists.

Instead of attacking those ttempting to improve relations between the United Kingdom and the Gulf countries it would be better to lobby for a tightening of our immigration laws to prevent such undesirables causing trouble here, and perhaps risking their quarrels spilling over on to our streets. Brigadier PETER SINCOCK Heytesbury, Wiltshire The writer is a former British defence attaché in the Gulf

Sir: I write to correct the impression given by Fran Abrams in her article about the recent visit by MPs to Bahrain regarding gifts received by members of the group.

After our return each MP taking part in the visit received the gift of a wristwatch. Each of us was entirely free to decide whether or not to accept the watch. Those who decided to do so would be required to register the gift in the Register of Members' interests.

I took advice from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and felt it would be most appropriate if I followed the practice adopted by ministers (who are not allowed to accept such gifts: and returned it to the FCO. CLAIRE M WARD MP (Watford, Lab) House of Commons London SW1

Justice first

Sir: Whilst Jack Straw is to be applauded on his decision over Pinochet, it is also worth noting the irony of William Hague's intended condemnation of this decision to the effect that it is not in Britain's interest.

It is precisely because it is not in our interest that it is the right decision, implicitly affirming that the impartiality of law comes before anyone's interest.

It seems many Tories are quite incapable of seeing that Britain's (business) interests are not the central issue, but that of justice.

For those who argue for clemency and a tempering of iustice with mercy or wisdom - by all means, but only when the course of justice has been completed; not by tampering with it beforehand in order to deny it.
DOMINIC KIRKHAM Manchester

Children at risk

Sir: We are taking urgent action to ensure that everyone working in the Employment Service understands their responsibilities where people are referred to jobs which involve working with children following the cases raised by Mr Harry Fletcher of the National Association of Probation Officers ("New Deal loophole lets in

criminals", 8 December) I have begun an urgent investigation into the specific cases, which I take very seriously indeed.

But we are also insisting that all those working in Jobcentres are clear that where they know they are dealing with individuals with a history of sex offending they should not be offered any such employment.

Already, any employer who is recruiting someone to work with children is asked to sign a declaration that they will carry out all the necessary checks with the authorities in respect of any previous convictions before they take the person on.

I have reminded Jobcentre staff of the need to ensure that employers do understand the requirement to undertake such checks.

And we are working with the Home Office to strengthen the checks on unsuitable people working with children The Home Office will be making an announcement on this matter early in the New Year.

We attach the highest importance to the effective protection of children, and the Employment Service will do all in our power to underpin this commitment. LEIGH LEWIS Employment Service London SW1

IN BRIEF

Sir: In fairness to the woman Frances Cornford ("To a fat lady seen from a train: Triolet", 7 December) while innocently enjoying a stroll, you ought to quote the riposte: O why do you ride through the fields in trains Pale pink poet from the Bloomsbury drains? Why do you ride through the fields in trains, Missing so much and so much? PHILLIP O'DONOGHUE New Barnet, Hertfordshire

Sir: I think Anna Somers Cocks has missed the point in her article about Venice entitled "That sinking feeling again" (9 December).

It is well known in Italy that the reason for the reluctance of the Venetians to put up the... money for the flood prevention scheme is because they think that if they delay, then the EU will provide the money instead.

Venetians are more than astute in matters of finance. ANTONY HARDING Taunton, Somerset

Sir. Is it not curious that whilst one part of the Government seeks to discourage smoking (through a ban on advertising, nicotine patches on the NHS etc), another is trying to preserve it by fighting to save duty free? RICHARD MADGE Bezhill-on-Sea, East Susser

Who needs critics?

Continued from page 1 Borders thinks big; none bigger. Saunter through its portals, wafted in by carefully chosen Muzak, and you can buy a newspaper, a magazine, a coffee and Danish, and lots of books. Prominent are "classics" good books. You can, for example, buy all of Jane Austen in any of five different, attractively packaged reprint lines, all costing less than £5. An armful of the best fiction written in our language will cost you less

than a bottle of single malt whisky. Look, however, for the books about Jane Austen. Even in Borders, with its hundreds of thousands of titles in stock, all you'll find are biographies (notably those

written by David Nokes and Claire Tomalin). But critical books on the author of Emma? Forget it. Yet there is a thriving Austen industry in the universities. It produces a score of monographs and scores of learned articles every year. Who reads them? The authors of those monographs and articles, and their mothers. Jane Austen is selling at least a million copies of her six major novels a year in the UK The Hermeneutics of Austen's Fiction, by Professor Brainstorm, Oxbridge University Press, 45, will do well to sell 250 copies -all to libraries, where the professor's erudition will lie undisturbed on the shelves.

have interesting things to say to each other. In the pages of this paper's sister publication, The Independent on Sunday, there was - a couple of weeks ago - a fascinating dispute. Andrew Davies disagreed with the literary adviser on the TV adaptation of Vanity Fair, DJ Taylor. The issue was one of central critical importance. Davies, as adapter, had taken liberties with Thackeray's text. Sensing that his fellow artist had been inhibited by the decencies of Victorian middle-class society, Davies inserted a Hogarthian vein of realism into his adaptation (Mrs Tinker's farts; George's remark to Jos, "Women piss, just It's not that critics and creators don't like us, you know"). The critic, DJ Taylor,

defended the sanctity of the text. You cannot take liberties with a classic such as Thackeray's novel, he felt.

It was, as I say, fascinating. Moreover it illustrated the necessity of the two functions: the creative risk-taking impulse and critical correction. As in all good quarrels about art, it's not easy to take sides. Taylor and Davies were both right. It was right, too, that they should be at odds. If I could institute one big reform in our literary and artistic world, it would be that we should have more of this dialogue (or pissing-match, if you will: artists and critics not just talking to each other, but creatively quarrelling with each other.



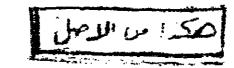
CONDITION

The series continues on Monday with Thomas Sutcliffe on television, followed throughout the week by Tom Lubbock on visual art, Paul Taylor on theatre, Adam Mars-Jones on film, Andy Gill on rock and Edward Seckerson on classical music

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EKEND REVIEW,





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Duty-free pantomime should not mask more vital issues

THE WHOLE business of duty-free shopping is ridiculous, and the sooner it goes, the better. It is depressing that the Government feels it has to indulge in the naked populism of posing as the defender of this pointless subsidy to travellers in order to provide cover for its first tentative strikes against the Eurosceptic press.

From the way some people talk about duty-free, you would think that it was part of a Briton's ancient birthright and that there was a clause in Magna Carta about it. Never mind that it was invented by the Irish as an ingenious subsidy for Shannon airport when long-haul air travel took over from ships. An administrative convenience - it was difficult to tax transactions on board liners - became a simple perk. Now it is one of those distortions of the tax regime which have become embedded long after their rationale is forgotten, and which it is the job of any authority interested in economic efficiency to eradicate.

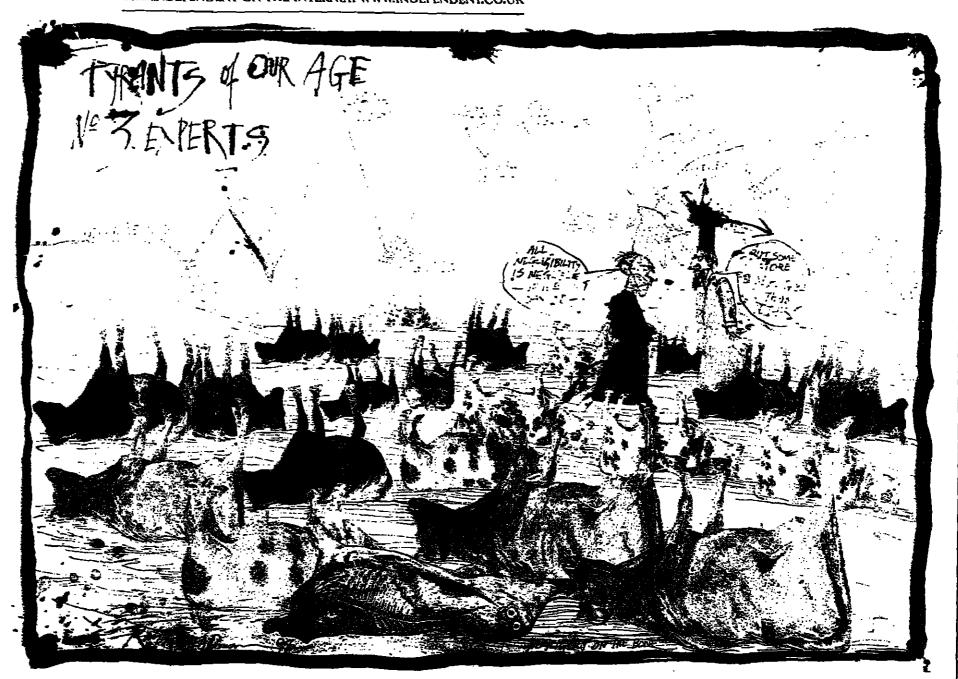
Ideally, duty-free shopping should be eliminated worldwide, although the logistics of securing agreement on it are daunting (in any case, the more urgent priority is to agree on the taxation of aviation fuel, a more significant subsidy of environmentally damaging travel). In the meantime, getting rid of duty-free within the European Union's single market will benefit poor EU taxpayers who currently have their pockets picked by people who can afford to travel. While it is regrettable when anyone loses a job, the argument that jobs will go has been the last refuge of the conservative through the ages.

However, if the pantomime of British attempts to delay the inevitable is the price that has to be paid for the Prime Minister's more robust attitude towards the Little Englander press, then it is a small price to pay.

Tony Blair's decision finally to speak the truth about the section of the British newspapers that are vigorously hostile to Europe", as he did on radio yesterday, is a significant step forward. That it represents a deliberate shift is not in doubt, because Jack Cunningham, the Minister for the Message, had just drawn up the charge sheet. Our newspapers are all widely read in Europe, he pointed out. "Giving this impression not only of Britain being isolated but Britain being determined alone to defy the whole of the European Union is totally counter-productive." Quite so. That makes a welcome change from Mr Blair's demeaning and unnecessary toadying to The Sun - especially during the election campaign. And it suggests that the Prime Minister has given up his hallucination that Rupert Murdoch is on the verge of being won over to the European cause.

Of course, not all the mild poisoning of relations in Europe over the past month has been the fault directly of the Eurosceptic papers. Some of the problems have been caused indirectly, by the Government's fear of the anti-European papers. The briefing on behalf of the Chancellor, for example, that he would say "No, no, no" to tax harmonisation and would not hesitate to wield "the veto", did much to annoy Oskar Lafontaine and to elevate the German Finance Minister as the sceptics' new bogey-man.

Intriguingly, Mr Blair's decision to stand and fight coincides with increasing signs of a laager mentality developing among the EU's opponents. Yesterday The Sun praised "our comrades-in-arms over at The Daily Telegraph" in their joint battle to expose yet another European conspiracy to interfere with the rule of British law. Meanwhile the "comrades" themselves presented Mr air's stance on Britain's rebate on EU funding in a way



that illustrated Mr Cunningham's criticism perfectly. Mr Blair was accused of contradicting himself by both describing the rebate as "non-negotiable", and accepting that it would have to be discussed.

In fact, the Prime Minister's position is entirely reasonable: the rebate is justified because Britain would otherwise be a "net contributor above countries with higher incomes than ours". What prevents the simple alignment of contributions with national incomes is the Common Agricultural Policy; until the Cap can be abolished - or at least radically reformed - Margaret Thatcher's rebate will

In the end, the argument against the Eurosceptics will be won by the deployment of reason rather than of spin. The logical alternative to the Prime Minister's policy of constructive engagement is Britain's withdrawal from the EU - and, even if we do disagree with some of our partners' ideas for the future of the union, there is nothing that justifies cutting ourselves off from the whole enterprise. It is to be hoped that this week marks a stiffening of Mr Blair's resolve, a determination not to take fright at every passing newsprint shadow.

In Vienna this weekend, we trust he will discuss the issues of EU funding, tax competition and the euro on their merits and give us less of this nonsense about defending cheap cigarettes and alcohol.

Give elephant dung to our schoolchildren

THERE WAS a time when your standard English carper against modern art decried Picasso for doing doodles that a three-year-old could manage. Well, at least no one could say their infant could manage Chris Ofili's Turner Prizewinning paintings using elephant dung as a medium.

Instead we have an illustrator doing something just as predictable, which is to dump a load of cow dung on the doorstep of the Tate in protest. The poor "outraged from Staffordshire" suffered a heart attack when collecting the material from his neighbour's farm. The wonder, however, is that he knew how to handle the stuff at all.

The trouble with the British anti-modernists, and the school of English landscape they keep looking back to, is that there is no sense of just that: the smell of the farmyard. In the works of Turner and Constable you can feel the sod, and the sweat poured on it. Not, however, with their present-day imitators.

Traditional British art lost its soul when it abandoned its engagement with real life. As in the crinoline-andcleavage dramatisations we have had to suffer on television recently, prettiness is all. Much of the criticism of modern art misses the point. The British, or rather the English, like their artists to decorate their houses, not disturb, let alone change, their understanding.

The wonder of modern British art, and artists such as Ofili, is that they struggle with modernity in what is the oldest of artistic traditions: representational painting. New York has its abstract expressionism (and no doubt we shall hear all the tedious old clichés about Jackson Pollock's painting when his exhibition opens in London early next year). But Britain has its figurative artists of equal international stature, from Francis Bacon to Lucian Freud. Pollock may fetch millions in the auction rooms of America, but Freud, very much alive and still working. whose Naked Portrait With Reflection fetched a record £2.8m this week, gains as much in Europe. Look at his nudes, and that mass of corporeal flesh. They may not look pretty. You may or may not want one on your drawing-room wall. But they say something.

One of the best aspects of Britain remains its design and invention. One of its worst characteristics is the constant denigration of the imagination that lies behind that. In all the discussion of the Government's new plans for formal education, where is the mention of art, of drama or of play? Schools would benefit as much from an art hour as from a literacy hour. And children would learn from playing with every sort of material, including even elephant dung.

A polite welcome back to the land of burned corpses and gun battles

value faced and tired, we must have pale-faced and tired, we must have ness, expecting to be detained and made a sorry spectacle queuing up at frogmarched on to the next plane immigration. Eleven hours crammed home. They were days of subterfuge in coach class with a toddler who when hundreds of reporters sneaked refused to sleep had reduced us to in pretending to be tourists. gibbering helplessness. The darkened lights of the cabin had convinced him that he was trapped in a move quickly. The only shock comes cave in whose depths lurked fearsome monsters. And so he had twisted and the doors slide open, the traveller is turned and jumped, and demanded to be walked up and down the aisle for hour after long hour.

I heard the man next to us groaning aloud on several occasions. Those of you who have travelled with small children on long flights will be familiar the expression of terror that crosses the faces of fellow passengers as you approach.

ting near me," they whisper I have done it myself. But as a parent you become defensive, resentful of those baleful expressions. There were plenty of them on the flight to Johannesburg. By the time we touched down I had stared down several resentful passengers. "To hell with you," I thought. "Were you never young?"

Once on the ground the aforementioned child decided to race through passport control on his own. I barely had the strength to run after him. The nice young woman stamping atmosphere was back then: those passports smiled indulgently. "Don't worry, sir, you can get him. I trust you to return," she said. And that was the first surprise of returning. The passport officers were - with one exception - black South Africans. I thought right-wingers in small towns spread of the old days when working-class across the platteland. At maners made up the entire corps of immigration staff, how during the such a mixture of hope and fear. For State of Emergency in 1986 I would ap-

ness, expecting to be detained and

All that nonsense is gone now. The welcome is friendly and the queues when you enter the arrivals hall. As confronted with a press of humanity. All of South African life surges toward you, black, white, coloured and Indian.

What a contrast to the old days when you sauntered into a half-empty concourse to find a few black porters and mostly white faces awaiting the arrival of relatives and friends from Europe. A businessman told me that the number of international air car-Please God don't let them be sit- riers using the country has soared from 50 to more than 180 over the past few years.

I have come back to make a film for Panorama, trying to document what has and has not changed in some ordinary lives. Over the next fortnight or so I will be revisiting a few of the people whom I encountered when I worked here. Those years of the early Nineties, beginning with Mandela's release and ending with the first nonracial elections in April 1994, seem so distant now. How potent the were days when we spent our time racing around the townships counting the victims of violence, trekked up to Zululand to interview Chief Buthelezi or listened to the voices of the white

Never before had I encountered



FERGAL KEANE

Never before had I come across such hope and fear the nation hovered between exhilaration and despair

hover between exhilaration and despair. Those of us who covered the township wars between the ANC and Inkatha (and their police and military supporters) seemed to live on a permanent surge of adrenaline.

We were mostly young men and women, many on their first foreign posting, who seemed not to realise or care about the dangers into which we raced day after day. Roadblocks, burning vehicles, gun battles, necklacings, massacres, trigger-happy teenagers with rifles bigger than themselves - those were the images of the days of rage in Kathlehong and Tokoza and a dozen other dusty townships on the reef.

Driving around the townships now as an older man, a man with a child, I wonder about the risks that we took. Would I take them now? Almost certainly not. I think back to that time and find it

hard to recognise myself. Getting up before dawn, I would first listen to the early bulletins and ring the South African Press Association and then, flak jacket in tow, I would head for the township where the worst violence had occurred overnight.

I remember the shock of seeing my first burned corpse outside a migrant hostel in Soweto. The body was charred beyond recognition and the smell was nauseating. But the camera-man I was travelling with simply strolled over, dropped to one knee, filmed the body and returned to the car without the slightest expression of horror or disgust.

When I asked him if he had been bothered by what he saw, he shrugged. "You'll get used to it," was all he said. And I did. I got terribly used to it.

But as I say, they were different times. Most of the people I travelled with have moved on to other parts of the world. Many have become major figures in journalism. It is hard, though, to think of any story that could quite match the intensity of that South African experience.

A few, however, did not emerge alive from those strange days. I cannot come back here and avoid the memory of men I knew who died on the story. Ken Oesterbroek, one of the most talented photographers in the country, who was shot dead in the townships shortly before the elections: his colleague Kevin Carter, who won a Pulitzer and took his own life not long afterwards; Abdul Shariff, another photographer, who was killed just yards from where I was standing one fateful day in Kathlehong.

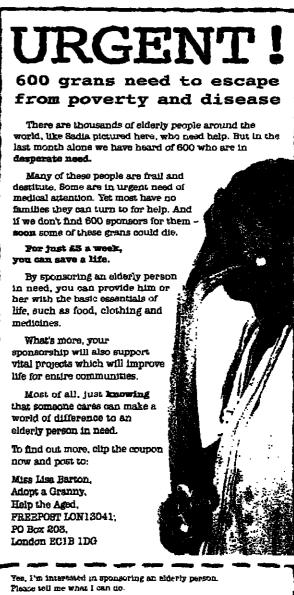
And, of course, my BBC colleague John Harrison, killed in a car accident while covering the unrest in the black and let you know.

homeland of Bopbuthatswana. The other day I went to Grand Central Airport outside Johannesburg to take a helicopter ride over one of the black townships. As we stood in the warm dawn I remembered the last time I had been there: flying in on the chopper carrying John's body back from Boohuthatswana. God bless him and all who died in those momentous days.

But those days, if not the memories. are gone. They are part of a vanished era. The new journalism demands a different approach.

We were reporting a surge of history and so much of what we did was dictated by great events. The release of Mandela, the Boipatong Massacre, the murder of Chris Hani, the white referendum on change and, of course, the 1994 elections. I still feel privileged to have been a witness to all that. But I think I left at the right time, I think it would have been hard to acclimatise to the new journalistic reality, where the great historical moments are few and far between. The day-to-day reporting of the new South Africa is best reported by a new generation of foreign correspondents.

Now that the drama has gone in South Africa, journalists have more time to spend actually thinking; analysing the successes and failures of this new country, probing the record of the ANC-dominated government. The debate has changed and so too have the targets of press criticism. Now it is the ANC government which finds itself on the receiving end of damning editorials and which responds with a defensiveness that recalls governments of another era. How much of the criticism is justified, I simply cannot tell. I will try to find out



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MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

Care in the Community • Extradition of Augusto Pinochet • Barry Horne • The National Front • UN Declaration of Human Rights

CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

Opinions on the Health Secretary's plans for changes in the treatment of the mentally ill

THE TIMES

THE REFORMS announced by Frank Dobson marked a sensible compromise between flawed modern ideals and outmoded institutionalisation. In the wake of such high profile crimes as the murder of Lin Russell and her daughter Megan by a violent psychopath, the public will be quick to applaud the Government's latest initiative. But an emphasis on crime must not be allowed to add to the social stigma already suffered by the mentally ill. Home Office reports suggest that the number of murders committed by the insane has not increased over the past 20 years. A reasoned perspective must be maintained. Care in the community needs public provision and public compassion. Both have been allowed to fall too low.

THE EXPRESS

BACK IN 1960, there were 160,000 beds for psychiatric patients. Large Victorian asylums held mental patients under lock and key. For years, the received wisdom was that this was unsatisfactory and that the most sensible way of treating the mentally ill was in the community. Frank Dobson declared that Care in the Community has failed and should be congratulated for biting the bullet.

Although most attention will be focused on his plans to ensure that the dangerously ill will no longer be able to roam the streets, he also revealed a sensible series of measures designed to offer proper care to other mentally ill patients, including an increase in beds, an expansion in round the clock nursing care, and other similar proposals. No package can ever be "complete", but yesterday's measures are a sensible reform to an unsatisfactory situation.

DAILY MAIL

THE REMORSELESS closure of mental hospitals and the tragic failure of Care in the Community has left these lost souls prey to the tora threat, both to themselves and

decade of government dithering, and a terrible catalogue of deranged killings, we have a health secretary

who does appear prepared to act. At last, doctors will have authority to compel people who are out of their mind to take proper treatment. At last, a little more is to be spent on a marginal addition to the number of beds in mental units. The Mail salutes the policy shift. But we have to say that it is long on promises and short on cash.

NEW STATESMAN

FOR THE mentally ill and those caring for them, the community often proved to be alienated, fearful and hostile. Without the bricks and mortar of the hospital, professional networks became more complex to manage and sustain, and although we continued to use psychiatric institutions as a last resort, we had denigrated the value which resides in the original meaning of "asylum", a place of safety.

The answer lies in understanding the particularities of mental health policy and practice. Policy-making should be neither "top down", nor "bottom up"; neither dirigisme nor phralism. It should be a dialogue between the policy-makers and those who know the terrain first hand, genuinely adaptive, and responsive to local knowledge and conditions. It's about trust. Trust the workers, Mr Dobson; trust the people.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

MOST OF it is sensible and welcome, though it will not come cheap. On exactly how the money will be spent, and when the new powers will be introduced and what safeguards will accompany them, the Health Secretary was remarkably vague. Rarely can the Treasury have conceded a major increase in a spending programme on the basis of such sketchy details. We broadly welcome what Mr Dobson is doing, but he should get his skates on. Given the urgency of the problem, the pace menting voices in their heads, and at which the Government is moving seems leisurely to the point of

The fly in the spider's web

THE WASHINGTON POST

A ROGUE Spanish judge is using "in-ternational law" to trample Chilean sovereignty and overrule Chile's functioning judiciary, its democratically elected government and the decision of its people to choose national reconciliation over revenge. And the advocates of the In-ternational Criminal Court are cheering him along. (Jesse Helm)

EL MERCURIO

STRAW'S RULING confirms that the ultimate resolution of the case was always in the hands of the British Labour Government, which has, in an act of enormous political indifference to the basic legal principles stated by our foreign ministry, sought to ignore the fact that Chile is a sovereign and independent country. However, the minister can at any moment take political factors into account and decree the end of the extradition process, thus ending the gravest situation that Chilean juridical sovereignty has had to face in the present century.

THE SUN

HOME SECRETARY Jack Straw made the wrong decision yesterday - giving in to the prejudices of 1970s student rabble-rousers. But the real villains are the Foreign Office. They told Pinochet that he would be welcome to receive medical treatment in Britain. That was like luring a fly into a spider's web.

EL PAIS Spain

DIFFICULT TO find a more appropriate commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights than the British Home Secretary's decision to allow his country's courts to process Spain's request for the extradition of Augusto Pinochet. Since 16 October, when the former dictator was detained in London, the Pinochet case has not only aroused signatory governments.

AUGUSTO PINOCHET

for murder, torture, "disappearance" and crimes against humanity



EXTRADITION OF AUGUSTO PINOCHET

Verdicts on Jack Straw's decision to allow extradition proceedings against the former Chilean head of state to continue in the courts

international passions and unleashed huge controversy but taken on a direction and speed that few would have dared predict. London and Madrid have overcome powerful pressure to shelve action on this delicate matter... The Pinochet affair is doing more for international law

than decades of conventions ignored by

as a symbol, for her courage,

her intelligence and her purity.

Suddenly it was finished; the

magic image exploded; the

myth disappeared. The Front

was not, of course, a virtuous

league. Some Front politicians

manoeuvred to have a good

spot in the European elections.

Others, convinced that the

charismatic chief was ageing.

he never dreamed that his own

barons would turn his arms

EVENING STANDARD

PINOCHET'S DETENTION in Britain under these circumstances for extradition hearings does nothing to advance this Government's "moral foreign policy". Rather, it highlights the Government's penchant for hypocrisy. To take the moral high road clinic and tea with Lady Thatcher.

with Pinochet is anything but courageous -it is an insult to the relatives of those who have been murdered to advance the cause of Mr Adams and his friends in Northern Ireland. These people have been asked to swallow the misery and injustice they have suffered. The British government, by contrast, says it would be "gut-wrenching" to ask the victims of Pinochet in Chile to do the same. Yesterday was not a good day for British justice, whatever it may do for the international kind

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

THE CASE will strain relations with Chile to breaking point, if not beyond. And, far from strengthening or clarifying international law, it could easily open up an international free for-all, in which all sorts of judges and governments will feel able to apply for the arrest of a wide range of former leaders to whom they may have taken a dislike. The whole thing is a ghastly mess and one which Mr Straw should have done everything he could to avoid, while he still had the chance.

LE MONDE France

It is of vital importance for all victims of any dictatorships that the trial takes place. It inspires hope in all of us. It is of interest to thevictims because it must lead to one immense trial. In France at the moment all charges placed by French or Chilean victims of assasination and torture are on hold. French legislation is much less progressive than that of the Spanish. For the sake of all the victims, French or otherwise, this judicial debate has to take

EL MUNDO Spain

STRAW AND his Government have shown political courage in taking a decision that means that Pinochet will not be able to leave Britain for a long time. However much the Chilean government protests. no one can do anything for Pinochet. He must be cursing the day he left for the London

BARRY HORNE

Views on the hunger-strike by the animal rights activist to force the Government to establish a Royal Commission

THE TIMES

FOR ALL the sentiment with which Britons treat their pets, popular support for a total ban on vivisection for medical purposes will never be obtained. Mr Horne's energies would have been far better directed at a thoughtful campaign urging the prompt setting up of a royal commission to minimise gratuitous suffering. Instead, through his hunger strike, he resorts to blackmail. He reveals himself to be not a martyr but a terrorist.

THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

THE GOVERNMENT cannot be seen to cave into terrorist blackmail. In the States, support for animal rights activism declined rapidly after members of the government began to condemn extremism. Bush's Secretary of Health spoke of "animal rights terrorists who have impeded life-enhancing



research". It would help enormously if Labour ministers would have the courage and honesty to say the same.

DAILY MAIL

MR HORNE believes the authorities have an absolute duty to give in to his demands. This invincible self-righteousness is not only unattractive, it is downright dangerous. "All that glisters is not gold," as it says in The Merchant Of Venice. By the same token, all who claim to be working for a

PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS

'Justice for Pinochet'

TROUW Netherlands

good cause are not necessarily compassionate. Extremists claim they must destroy, maim and kill so that the world should be made better Regrettably, killing is sometimes necessary, as in halting the spread of Nazism. But securing an improvement in the treatment of animals requires no human sacrifice. Horne is not a martyr but a man in error, and error taken to such extremes is evil.

THE BIRMINGHAM POST

HUNGER STRIKING is the worst possible form of manipulation, and the Government should resist it at all costs. It is not noble. It is not selfless. And it is no more heroic than a child having a tantrum. Labour has broken its promises to animal rights activists. Horne is on a hunger strike in protest. But he is not dying because of Labour's broken promises. He is dying because that is what he has chosen. He is responsible.

THE VIEWS OF THE WORLD

LA CRONICA DA HOY

Mexico

THE NATIONAL FRONT

The French press considers the recent splits in the extreme-right political party

LIBERATION

THE TENSION mounts a little more each day. The only way for Le Pen and Mégret to resolve their quarrel is for one to get rid of the other. In the space of just a few days the extreme right has turned round and marched back down the arduous road which had originally led it out of marginality. However, we cannot yet claim to know the true extent of the shake-up. The Richter scale by which we can measure this earthquake will be the elections, which will mark the true extent of the National Front's loss of influence.

LE FIGARO

AFTER MUCH disillusionment, the ordinary voter put his faith in the National Front. The shouts of his adversaries, the cascade of denunciations, the vengeful parades, all this comforted his fidelity. We only hate what we fear. The chief of the National Front used Joan of Arc

tried to escort him gallantly out the door. As a result, the prince slapped at his rebellious children. Certainly, he had taught them the art of conspiracy. But

against him.

HAVE SURRENDER! PASS IT ON!!!

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND

Germany

JEAN-MARIE Le Pen isn't even

LE MONDE

trying to hide his fury and his intense desire to disassociate himself from the factions. He appeals to the people of the Front. He even invokes the democracy of the ballot box. He's not far from slipping. He is going to slip. He slips.

VERDENS GANG

UN DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS Reflections on the 50th anniversary of the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

AL AYAM Bahrain

THE US, which has appointed itself as a defender of human rights, is itself constantly violating those rights. Federal and state laws in the US guarantee many rights. They ban all discrimination. They guarantee freedom of speech, religion, the establishment of societies and the right to a fair trial. Despite all these guarantees, violations of human rights occur there regularly. Why then is the American eye jaundiced and only sees what takes place in other countries?

LOS ANGELES TIMES US

HOW DOES one celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a decade marked by genocide in Bosnia and Rwanda? Progress can be applauded in much of the

CANBERRA TIMES Australia

world. But what about the

terrible abuses that persist?

Governments will always be

tempted to violate rights if they

feel it will help them secure or

maintain power. The challenge is to encourage them to resist

that temptation. What can be

acclaimed is the emergence of

a powerful movement to make

that resistance far more likely.

WHAT PROGRESS has been made in 50 years? Scan the globe for examples of genocide, repression, torture and sheer lack of human dignity, and the answer might well be a hollow laugh. But, since 1948, human rights have entered the mainstream of international discourse. Even the harshest tyrant uses the language of rights, if only to distort its meaning. In a world where abuses are a daily problem, not a philosophical abstraction, there can be no blind spots.

Gateshead's dog wardens saw

Mrs Richardson's pet leaving its

noxious calling card on a grass

verge. They slapped a fine on her, and when that wasn't paid

took her to court. It shows that

Gateshead means business

when it comes to curbing the

menace of dog mess in its

DENVER POST

streets and parks.

MISCELLANEOUS

Stories from around the world

USA TODAY

AS A convenience for those who celebrate both Christmas and Hanukkah, one can purchase reversible tableware napkins, placemats, and table runners with a Christmas motif on one side and Hanukkah motif on the other. Also for sale is a greeting card with Santa and a Hasidic rabbi standing in front of a Christmas tree and menorah, singing from a booklet marked Holiday Duets.

AN INSPIRING innovation has **EVENING**

UK PET OWNER Janice Richard-

son says it was bad luck when she fell foul of the law adults in their lives

CHRONICLE

arisen in the rapidly growing community of Fruita, where a 24-hour child care center has

opened across from a nursing home to let young and old interact. The children will benefit, too, in having more adoring

RESEARCH BY SALLY CHATTERTON

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

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"Noel Coward was the Bruce Springsteen, the Bruce Willis of his day." Joanna Lumleu (above)

"It would be dishonest to say I'm beyond ambition, but the fires of ambition are rather tepid these days." Chris Patten ex-Governor of Hong Kong, on his future political plans

"Tony Blair is one of the century's great leaders, and Bald Billy is a prat." Mick Hucknall, DOD star

"Dead sheep and cows are one thing, but the elephant dung was the final straw." Ray Hutchins, artist, following his dumping of dung outside the Tate in protest at the Turner Prize award

"No taxation without respiration." Steve Forbes. Republican presidential hopeful, on his pledge to scrap death duties

"He looked me up and down and said, I like your big boots' Natalie Appleton, singer, on her encounter with

Bill Clinton

هكذا من الاحل

Getting in touch with my Thelwellian side

local charity shop has a half-price sale. You can pick up some amazing bargains. I haven't yet worn the silver Lurex flying-jacket I bought for £1.50 recently, and no one has quite got the hang of the cappuccino-maker - should it gurgle and spit when the water is still lukewarm? - but my £5 musical tantalus is the envy of all our friends.

Firman Right.

Tell a series

Too bad Uncle Archie never lived to see it. Being an old Calcutta hand, as they say, and lifelong member of the Oriental Club, he would have recognised a superior tantalus when he saw one.

I take it you all know that a tantalus is a case, usually portable, and much in use in colonial service, in which alcohol decanters are visible but locked up. Mine is shaped like

EVERY THURSDAY afternoon our a steam engine; there are six shotglasses in the tender, and the funnel is the neck of the whisky decanter. When you pick it up it plays "Drink to me only..." I bet I'd get a fortune for it at Sotheby's.

Anyway, I tell you all this only because last Thursday, when I called the friend with whom I always go to the charity shop, she said she couldn't come. Why on earth not, I asked. We never miss a Thursday rummage. "Because I'm watching the World Championships from Dubai on the Internet. It's terribly exciting," she said.

World Championship what? I said stupidly. Apart from the Ashes and rugby. December isn't particularly sporty. Unless it was skiing, but not from Dubai, surely?

"Don't be daft," said my friend.



SUE ARNOLD

My friend is pretty much perfect in every respect, except for one thing. She's horsy

"I mean the endurance riding, You know Richard was British heavyweight champion this year." Funny things, friends. You can

love them dearly, even though you but to their credit they stop im- in the saddle. The rest was devoted truly appalling. My Thursday friend is funny, generous, sympathetic, sensitive, accommodating and pretty much perfect in every respect, except for one thing. She's horsy. Being sensitive, as I said, she rarely reveals the darker side of her nature to me, knowing my aversion to all animals except for working

sheepdogs. This is no mean feat considering the fact that she was one of the first women jockeys, has always kept horses even though she lives in the middle of London, and took up endurance riding with her new husband seven years ago.

Occasionally, if I arrive unexpectedly, I may overhear them discussing farriers' fees or bran mash.

find some of their characteristics mediately I come in and switch to more sociable topics.

They ride every morning and once, I can't remember why, I agreed to join them. Yes, of course I can ride. To prove it I have Thelwellian photographs of myself as a child on a series of barrel-bellied ponies called Skittles (they were always called Skittles: winning rosettes at gymkhanas. Years later I took it up again briefly to research an article I was writing on the English upper crust. Hunting with the Belvoir reinforced all my prejudices

about horsy people. But in friendship there must be give and take, so off I went to Epsom for a morning's hack. Of the three hours we spent with the horses, only half an hour was spent to mucking out, grooming, lungeing, tack maintenance and trudging dispiritedly around a five-acre field with a wheelbarrow picking up horse-shit. Apparently it poisons the grass. I've never been riding with my friends since.

I do, however, pick up the odd hint of what they get up to at weekends in the summer, and they seem to be doing pretty well. Endurance riding, I'm told, is the fastest-growing equestrian sport in this country. Since Sheikh Mohammed Al Maktoum took it up this year ut's because of his enthusiasm that the championships are taking place in Dubai), its profile has been raised significantly. My friend bought her horse for a mere £2,000

and was gratified to see it carry her

husband to heavyweight victory this summer. The horse Sheikh Mohammed was riding in Dubai last Thursday was the French Endurance Riding Champion and cost him £240,000. When they compete in endurance rides at weekends, my friends, like all the other competitors, sleep in the trailer alongside their horses. Sheikh Mohammed arrives with 100 staff and as many wives, takes over the local hotels, sets up a catering tent for corporate entertaining and flies to and from the venue in his helicopter. I'm glad he only came fourth in Duhai.

If Richard qualifies for the British team one day, as I'm sure he will, I shall drink his health in 20-year-old Laphroaig from my musical tantalus. If he wins I might

THE SATURDAY PROFILE

JONATHAN ROSS, TELEVISION PERSONALITY

Back from the last resort

transient talking heads plucked from the stages of comedy clubs. The frontman who can dovetail a show, think on his feet, and be funny, is fast becoming an endangered breed. Jonathan Ross, is barely seen on the Box any more.

Not tonight, when the British Comedy Awards will once again have Jonathan Ross as the master of ceremonies. In recent years, critics have sniped that this annual event has come to represent Ross's only TV outing that merits a mention; that the kilt-wearing figure who turned up at movie premières, and recently the family man snapped chez lui and spread across the pages of Hello! with his wife Jane and their three children, has been hogging the spotlight as his career has gone AWOL.

Unfair. Jonathan Ross, one of the few genuine superstars of the chat show, is also ne of the most laid-back. He hungers for elevision, but also genuinely prefers more time with his family; loves money and the things it buys (including a top-class collection of comics), but doesn't seem to feel that he needs to earn more .

And the fact is that the Comedy Awards is where Ross excels, in a role that, played by a lesser mortal, would be little more than that of an anchorman. In an event that purports to laud the funniest performers working within the small screen, he is ultimately the sole reason for turning on and

During his time at the helm of the show. he has witnessed the eager attempts by the likes of Julian Clary ("Tve been fisting Norman Lamont"), and Michael Barrymore the obligatory screw-up-the-autocue prank), to prove that their wit is worthy of an award win. But it is Ross's script ("Natural born Cillas"), and his ad libs that bring a semblance of flair to what is essentially an excuse for celebrity backslapping, dished up as a filler before the next season of An Audience With...

That television has lately been unable to attach him to a series that is relevant both to his character and to culture in the Tineties, is more an indictment of the industry's commissioning editors than of the man himself. Clearly, this is what Chris Evans hopes to do by hiring him on Virgin radio to do a Sunday show, as part of a Jonathan Ross renaissance.

This seems an obvious partnership, particularly as Evans has been credited with inheriting, in the Nineties, the mantle that belonged to Jonathan Ross in the Eighties: seemingly that of kooky, quirky. cheeky chappie - TV lad - with their mutual friend, the writer Danny Baker, as the tie that binds.

But this sells Ross short, and misunderstands his past achievements. An East Ender, who was born in Leytonstone, one of a fiercely competitive family of five brothrs and sisters (all of whom have ended up

TELEVISION IS currently top-heavy with with television careers), a powerful mother, and the sort of childhood that instilled mastheads of broadsheet columns and the him with a love of superheros, film posters, and new gadgets, Ross started in Fleet Street at 17 and married young. His wife was only 16 when they met, 17 when they species. One of the last of this dying married (he was 24) and remains his passion still.

He came into television early, in the heady days of commercial expansion in the Eighties. He was only 24 when he formed

LIFE STORY

Born: Leytonstone, east London. Married: Journalist and author Jane Goldman (right), when she was 17. Three children, Betty

Kitten, Harvey Kirby and Family: Levelpegging with rhe McGanns as the first family of television. Mother, Maureen, regular resident

"EastEnders" Albert Square. Brothers Paul, omnipresent TV presenter, notably of the British edition of Japanese gameshow "Endurance", Miles. and Simon, TV producers. Youngest siblings Lisa and Adam also working in the media.

CV on TV: "The Last Resort", "The Incredibly Strange Film Show", "Fantastic Facts", "Americana", "One Hour with Jonathan Ross", "Tonight with Jonathan Ross", "Saturday Zoo", "The Big, Big Talent Show. Owns: A house with a pool in

Florida and another in north London. Says of himself: "I actually like showing off in public, which is what my job still entails." Plans: Pilot for a new BBC chatshow, "It's Only TV. But I Like It".

an independent company - Channel X with his then partner and producer, Alan Marke. Its first major programme, Last Resort, provided a blueprint for much of what came later, from others. His programmes were also a finishing school for talent that may not have got a foot in the door elsewhere. Vic Reeves made his debut on The Last Resort. Paul Whitehouse and Kathy Burke appeared in An Hour With Jonathan Ross, Caroline Aherne made her TV debut as Sister Mary Immaculate on Tonight with Jonathan Ross, while Mark Lamarr was

Even though, when The Last Resort arrived on air in 1985, the set and the style was a nod Stateside to David Letterman, almost every new talk show since has aped the same formula: desk, house band, and a line-up that loosely offers a big celebrity, a topical guest, and a freakish speciality act. Chat is to the Nineties what comedy was to the Eighties: anyone can have a go. Small wonder, then, that Ross has moved on from a form that is now the domain of flyweight wits such as Melinda Messenger and Jeremy Clarkson.

The idea for the show originated with Ross and Marke. They had both been researchers on early Channel 4 efforts targeted at a young audience. Ross slipped m as presenter, after he was unable to convince Jeremy Hardy, the comedian and writer, to step into the role, having cornered him at a urinal in a pub toilet. His previous forays in front of the camera had amounted to little more than an obscure cereal ad in his teens, and a programme on skateboarding.

Ross and Marke were a product of the generation that had witnessed glam, punk, and the emergence of the style press. All of which were essential to the references and the vocabulary of The Last Resort. In an industry that understood entertainment, this was one of the first grown-up shows to give it lessons in popular culture. It was the place where you were just as likely to see Leigh Bowery's pierced cheeks, Gilbert & George dancing, or Donny Osmond's post-pubescent "Puppy Love". Last December, the show returned to Channel 4 for one night only, to commemorate 15 years of the network. Ross fronted a show that could have easily picked up where the last series left off. Frank Skinner tried an Elvis number, an American woman popped her eyeballs out, and a man banged nails into his body.

When Ross put these acts on the box. they worked on novelty and shock value alone. The Jim Rose-like freaks who could swallow razor blades or regurgitate goldfish, and warranted a three-minute slot on The Last Resort, have since been stretched od nauseam in series upon series of its pale imitations. In its wake we have endured, among other things, The Word, The Girlie

Show, and Eurotrash. The trash aesthetic that preoccupies similar series, and much mainstream TV now, had its first outing on the Ross documentaries on Americana, Elvis and The Incredibly Strange Film show series. Although this kind of content continues to be a career move for Clive James, Ross has thankfully put it behind him. That joke isn't funny any more. We no longer need to watch and wonder at the sheer badness of foreign television. It's over here, over-sexed and overplayed. British television has become, in part, the thing it once loathed and laughed at.

Rumour has it that the immediate future for Jonathan Ross lies in movie talk. He is reputedly odds-on favourite to step into



Jonathan Ross's 'The Last Resort' was the blueprint for a generation of 'TV chat-shows

Barry Norman's shoes as the BBC's resident film critic. Film is his forte, whereas sport, soaps, and feeding other people lines for jokes is not. This is why he is wasted on panel shows, and as the middleman on non-starters such as the risible prime-time series Gaglag, in the early-Nineties. The subjects he once covered in The Incredibly Strange Film Show, such as directors John Waters and Russ Meyer revealed him as a straight lad with a camp sensibility. This, coupled with a fascination for cinema's bigger picture, and his friendship with actors such as Johnny Depp, could see a more permanent return of form, if a film series is in the offing.

Had Ross been a pop star, his sojourn at London Weekend in the mid-Nineties would have been his Tin Machine period. The company's attempt to cast him as a post-modern Hughie Green at the helm of The Big, Big Talent Show once again revealed the short-sightedness of the masters of the TV universe. It's telling that from the wreckage of that period it is only the Ross documentaries on cinematic icons that have some worth: James Bond, You assume that the odd, one-hour

the Christmas period). A popular film series would now be the perfect vehicle to bind his wit. smartness and rapport.

Someone once wrote that Jonathan Ross was the only talk-show host, apart from Parkinson, to have a genuine interest in most of his guests. This still remains the case. Unlike Clive Anderson, he never uses every moment of an interview as a cue to deliver a punch-line created by a cast of scriptwriters. And the bigger the name before him, often the better the interview. Although he is synonymous with irreverence, you never forget that he was once, and still remains, a fan. In the early days of The Last Resort, it was as though he couldn't believe his luck as he embarked upon a duet with Tom Jones.

Ross himself has said that he has had problems with the business of celebrity. Having spent all day in what Quentin Crisp calls "the nodding and smiling bracket", he found that he was arriving home attempting to harness a cartload of anger. The house of Ross remains a family affair.

Dracula and Tarzan (transmitted over interview in the past, with the likes of the mild, and previously permed, Michael Bolton, were endured simply to keep the family in the style to which they have become accustomed. Although, with his wife Jane Goldman having made a mint from her books about The X Files, there should be no shortage of ready cash for the gadgets, computer games, and comics that keep the boy Ross occupied when he's away from the spotlight.

"It's very hard to be taken off the air in Britain," Jonathan Ross told David Letterman, when the American chat show host interviewed him in 1991. "I've made some good shows, and some bad shows. But they just let you keep on making them."

Nowadays, he appears to be intent on simply making the good ones again, as long as the powers-that-be let him do so. This is perhaps more than can be said for some of the nominations at tonight's British Comedv Awards - a comedy ceremony at which the man dishing out the trophies is invariably funnier than many of those

MICHAEL COLLINS

who's a sex machine to all the chicks?" The answer, surprisingly, is Richard Roundtree, star of the 1971 film Shaft. But who remembers Roundtree? What we recall from that fairly dismal film is Isaac Haves's brilliant score, which not only included the deathless line quoted above, but is also credited with changing film sound-tracks.

Before Shaft, scores for exploitation flicks were mostly incidental music, with maybe a theme song over the credits. Hayes's jazz funk sound-track for Shaft incorporated rap and gospel-style vocals, underscoring the action on screen

The eponymous private dick, ald manoeuvre his Afro hairstyle ments are much more than that.

"WHO'S THE black private dick, through the door of some thieves" den, take out a gun with an improbably phaltic silencer, and dispatch the miscreants while the girl singers chanted Shaft's name. and Hayes, with his distinctive furlined voice, intoned slogans such as "Can you dig it?", and "That cat Shaft is a baad mutha."

Not exactly Cole Porter, but the style established by Hayes in Shaft - wedding the sounds of contemporary American black neighbourhoods to established Afro-American musical traditions - was much copied and became the defining element of the "blaxploitation" movie genre, to which Quentin Tarantino paid homage in his film Jackie Brown. But his musical achieve-

ACCIDENTAL HEROES OF THE **20TH CENTURY**

18: ISAAC HAYES, SOUL SINGER

grandparents, Hayes absorbed a tradition of black music stretching back to the turn of the century. "Sitting on the porch, I'd sing the old Negro spirituals with my family,"

says Hayes. While still in his teens, he was hired as a sideman by Stax Records in Memphis, whose releases were

Born of poor sharecroppers in mercial less white version of black Tennessee, in 1942, and raised by music than those on the more successful Tamla Motown label. As keyboard player, vocalist, and composer, Isaac Hayes was a key figure in creating the Stax sound.

He played on sessions with Booker T and the MGs, Sam and Dave, and Otis Redding, and wrote hits including "Soul Man", "You Don't Know Like I Know", and "Hold On,

in the late Sixties, he revolutionised rhythm and blues music,

He would take white cocktail bar songs such as "Walk On By" and "By the Time I Get to Phoenix" and claim them for black music, with lengthy jazzy arrangements and almost spoken vocals. Hayes's unique style was undoubtedly a forerunner of disco and rap, and others benefited from what he had created while Haves's own career went into a decline, embracing bankruptcy, and a spell in prison for drug offences.

His recent glorious resurrection owes less to his albums, which remain as inventive as ever, than to his incarnation as the character Chef, head of the school cafeteria in South felt by many to be a purer, less com- I'm Coming". When Stax gave Hayes Park, the crudely drawn and even

the chance to release solo projects more crudely spoken cartoon series. South Park will never be The Simpsons, but what patina of sophistication it has is lent to it by the

> lovable Isaac Hayes character. In his live act, he now performs the South Park song "Love Gravy", which is about a drunken pig making "sweet lurve" to a drunken elephant, which could be interpreted as an oblique, ironic comment on performers such as Barry White, who took Hayes's symphonic soul and commercialised it.

This is probably not intentional. It may simply be Hayes's way of showing gratitude for the fact that. for whatever reason, his maverick genius is gaining some recognition. At last, a reason to give thanks for



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THE WEEKLY MUSE

By MARTIN NEWELL



Russian Spacebug Eats Your Pants... Though practical, it lacks romance And science has moved on apace In space-pant/hygiene interface. If cosmonauts are cheerier With pant-cleaning bacteria It wasn't what I had in mind In boyhood dreams I left behind: "Major Tom to Ground Control -I think these pants have got a hole"

And human cloning by next year? A heart, a lung, a nose, an ear -The possibilities are vast, A real Body Shop at last: "Don't Phone Us – We'll Clone You! Replacement parts as good as new Allow a fortnight at the most And pop your details in the post." Not everyone will think it's right, But two in every one men might.

It's knives out for Clare Short again: Perhaps you chaps with half a brain Should just remember now and then

That cosying up to businessmen Would not be foremost in her sights. Her working brief is human rights And smashing poorer nations' chains, Not flogging engines, guns or planes. Her critics in particular Should cast a glance at Chechnya:

No houses, doctors, schools or jobs,

Just jeeploads full of well-armed yobs. Not trustworthy? Our record charts? Prone to manipulation? Record company marketing Controls the situation,

Where radio stations play the songs To give them full support Until the public knuckle down And discs are duly bought. Assuming that we're stupid, Which they seem to take as fact, They'll badger and cajole us Till we buy their tawdry act. The problem with this arrogance Is that they're selling pap And flies are most attracted

So lots of competition Helps to keep them on their toes. The issue here's the class of crap, As Lord Lloyd Webber knows.

To the bigger piles of crap,

THE WEASEL

The Weasel Conceptual Cup for daft-looking cookbooks proudly presents, in reverse order, its three finalists

THIS TIME last year, you may recall, I drew attention to the most selfindulgent examples of cookery book design to appear in 1997. The River Café Cook Book Two had eight consecutive pages devoted to a man washing Parmesan cheeses, but The lvy: The Restaurant and its Recipes was even more absurd, with photo-spreads that included 13 slices of toast, empty bottles of Coca-Cola and Kia-Ora, a pile of dirty plates and, best of all, the nasty burns on a chef's arms. Since there have been several equally barmy efforts this year, I have decided to institute the Weasel Conceptual Cup for daft-looking cookbooks.

We have three outstanding finalists. Nigel Slater's Real Food (£18.99) made the short-list owing to its grotesquely enlarged photos, often so unfocused that they would have merited one of those admonitory stickers at the developers. Thanks to the creative eye of the photographer, the mushroom & potato pie occupying page 31 resembles a crumbling glacier. The blobs of speckled mash on page 41 might be the twirly turrets of a Russian cathedral; the huddle of red peppers on page 145 could be mistaken for deflating Li-Los.

Another contender was How to Eat by Nigella Lawson (£25), though the design of this tome commits no sins of excess. Quite the reverse. Going by the dreary nature of its illustrations, it might be a Ministry of Food publication from the austerity years of the early Fifties. A double-page spread on pages 84-5 is given over to a Tupperware box, while pages 404-5 are devoted to a plastic lemon squeezer Yummy.

Weasel Conceptual Cup goes to a restaurant cookbook. Harvey Nichols: The Fifth Floor Cookbook by Henry Harris (£25) starts promisingly, with a photo of a dirty plate on the cover. Its ring-bound format enables readers to study with ease the squeezed tube of harissa chilli sauce on page 29, the oily, screwed-up paper towel on page 48 and

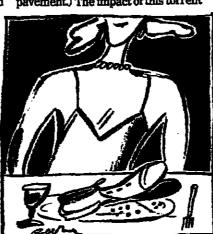
the luguistious pig's head on page 69. But the book reserves its great-est treats for the end. Page 281 is taken up by a smashed bottle of armagnac, while page 283 reveals the soles of a pair of well-worn shoes. Which of Mr Harris's recipes includes these succulent ingredients is not made clear.

DESPITE BEING associated with

the blaring John Prescott, hypothecation is not a medical condition resulting from excessive political windbaggery. This pinstriped neo-logism is, of course, Whitehall gobbledegook for taxes dedicated to a single end. The Deputy PM insists that the estimated £1bn per year raised from city tolls on cars will be spent on "local transport improvements". Though I'm no great friend of the motorist, I have my doubts about the effectiveness of such schemes, judging by the efforts of our local council. Stingy in all other respects, our London borough seems to have bottomless pockets when it comes to

tinkering with roads. The forest of hectoring signs that clutters up the pavement grows thick-

Despite such stiff competition, the er by the day. Scarcely a yard of Tarmac remains unmarked by colourful restrictions. Recently, green patches appeared at many road junctions with the intention of giving cyclists a head start when the traffic lights change. While OK in principle, I have yet to see them being used by a single cyclist. (Round here, they usually use the pavement.) The impact of this torrent



of money upon traffic conditions is more or less zilch.

For all Mr Prescott's trumpeting, hypothecation is nothing new. I recall the notion of using road tax purely for roads being raised during the tenure of Lord polloi. Well, not exactly. Some pals of Marples, transport minister from 1959 to 1964. The late, great Ernie would have nothing of it. "Ridiculous idea," he scoffed. "You wouldn't expect the taxes raised from tobacco to be spent on improving pipes."

IT IS reassuring to think that the magnates and superstars who fly Concorde have at least three hours' freedom from the sales pitches that must ceaselessly pursue them at ground level. Well, not exactly. The temptation of having a captive audience of plutocrats at 62,000ft has proved too much for British Airways. The world's favourite airline has introduced a duty-free brochure to

help fat cats while away the Atlantic crossing. With each page bearing a reassuring quotation ("Succeeding is the coming together of all that is beautiful" - I Ching), high-fliers are invited to cough up £250 for a Cartier inkwell or a box of five cedarwood pencils (including sharpener) for £199. Prompted by the opaque musing of Tao Te Ching, "There is a time for being ahead, a time for being behind, a time for being in motion, a time for being at rest", they may choose to splash out £740 on a Baume & Mercier Dual-Time Watch, which has two dials to overcome all the tedious calculation involved in deducting or adding five hours. Don't scoff. On

recent crossing, one passenger spent most £4,000 on such trinkets.

Still, Concorde zillionaires can rest assured that the stratospheric fares will at least exclude unmoneyed hoi mine who recently returned from the Big Apple on Concorde (round trip fare: £6,000 each) found that most of the seats were occupied by the American winners of a British Airways prize draw called "Ride the Rocket". These for-

tunate couples scooped not only a weekend in London, but also \$10,000 in spending-money "What luck!" my chums gasped at their "Ride the Rocket" neighbours, who came from the West Coast. "Well, not exactly," the two Californians responded. "Between us, we filled in 13,500 entries."

PLUS CA change ... I was pleased to discover that the V&A exhibition on Aubrey Beardsley includes an illustration of "the modern woman", which he contributed to the September 1894 issue of The Idler. Despite a hiatus of a mere 90 years or so, a periodical with this name continues to appear, still proudly flaunting the yellow banner of decadence. Only last week, it was instrumental in securing the return of absinthe to Britain.

Though a century has passed since his death, Beardsley's work retains the power to shock. As Brian Sewell so astutely noted in the Evening Standard: "His drawings of the phallus are evidence that he had undertaken close scruting of others than his own." If only Beardsley had kept his eyes to himself, the world might have been spared much unpleasantness.

It's not every Victorian exhibition whose souvenirs include books described as "Decadence/Erotica", the classification on the cover of Beardsley's porn fantasy Under the Hill. The V&A shop even contains one item that would have surprised the rapierthin artist: Aubrey Beardsley milk chocolate bars (£1.95). Now that's what I call unnatural.

SPIRIT OF THE AGE

PAUL VALLELY

Inside the cult of 'The Street' *

I HAVE to tell you I'm getting worried. quite a bit about Zoe's background It's a combination of things. Sometimes first," she said. I was prepared for this: when you ring she sounds preoccupied and doesn't want to talk. Other times she seems unnaturally consumed with the activities of a bunch of characters whose lives, quite frankly, sound like mere parodies of reality. Yet it seems she is in their thrall and unable to break away. On a few occasions she says things like: "This is a funny time to ring; don't you know The Street is on."

I have a feeling that my mum might have been drawn into some cult. She insists it's just a TV soap she's watchlike – they always have some story to cover the reality that they are evil institutions that recruit by deceit and keep people by indoctrination. Those entrapped tell you it's just a personality development course or some way of making the world a better place. It always sounds plausible at first.

I put this to her. Oh yes, she knows all about that. There is a cult on The Street at the moment, she says. I am thrown by this. A cult within a cult? Is this post-modernism gone mad? Or is it just Coronation Street entering the New Age at last? What next? Ken Barlow as guru? Deirdre Rachid as a channeller of alien entities?

I decided to go north, to Granada Television, to find out what is going on. There I was met by one of the cuit adepts, Alison Sinclair, who hides behind the cover of being Coronation Street's press officer: "You have to know

with poor James Ballantyne

for company. I suppose it will

long and confusing introductory lectures are a standard cult technique; they baffle you and break down your self-confidence.

Zoe was a typical victim, Alison said: a childhood in and out of care, a teenage delinquent, an unmarried mother at 16 who tried to sell her baby to Judy and Gary (never mind, you don't need to know about them). Then she changed her mind, but the baby (which was called both Katie and Shannon, but I'm editing most of this ing. But then, you know what cults are — stuff out for you) got meningitis and died. Now the cult has told her that she can talk to the dead child, but only if she sleeps with the leader, Ben. He is the Mancunian manifestation of the top man, Nirab, which is an anagram of Brian (an in-joke - Brian Park is the strong need for affection. They feel man who restored Coronation Street's ratings in recent times).

> Confused? You should be. It's one of the standard techniques of cult recruiters, according to Ian Howarth, of the Cult Information Centre. They also demand total allegiance, discourage rational thought, isolate members from the outside world, bewitch the initiated with arcane truths and jargon and surround themselves with an aura of mystery. Sounds just like Coronation Street, I told my mum. Yes dear, she said.

> But there is a problem with all this. People who join cults are psychologically weak and intellectually inferior,

people easily dominated by tyrannical leaders. Or so we imagine.

The truth is almost exactly the opposite, says Mr Howarth. "The typical recruit is economically advantaged, of above-average intelligence, well edu-cated and idealistic," he said. "Zoe doesn't score highly on any of that." A much more likely recruit would be Ken Barlow, who is representative of those drawn into the "therapy cults", which attract older people by masquerading as personal or career development outfits. It was from one of these that Mr Howarth escaped tore starting his cuit watch

The average recruit is, indeed, white, middle-class and idealistic, according to an American Psychiatric Association report. "They tend to be dependent," it said. "They have a resentful and are often openly hostile towards society; it has disappointed them and does not value them."

And yet the views of psychiatrists, former members and desperate parents, who fear their children are lost to cults, do not tell the whole story. There is an increasing body of sociologists who question such definitions. "Cults set out to counter the values of the dominant society and so invariably provoke hostility," says David Barrett, who works for Inform, an information network on "new religious movements", as it prefers to call cults. So they go in for promiscuous sex or total celibacy just to provide a contrast



Cult heavies restrain Zoe's boyfriend, Ashley, in Coronation Street

with the rest of us. Because most of us patterns that contrast sharply with eat meat, they plump for vegetarianism. And so on.

But rather than dangerous detours to growing up. some cults can be havens of stability in a society that stresses utilitarian, materialistic and self-gratifying values. According to John Saliba, a Jesuit sociologist, they can be "helpful organisations that provide an alternative therapy to many young adults as they are faced with making momentous decisions at important junctures in their lives".

In support of this he cites the fact that many converts appear to be healthy and content. They give up addictions to alcohol and drugs. They gain "a degree of intellectual security, emotional stability and organised behavioural their previously confused and chaotic existences". And, anyway, more than 90 per cent leave within two years.

If that sounds baloney, that may just be because we are prejudiced according to one US researcher who recently set out an organisational profile and asked three groups of punters to comment. The three groups were advised that they were dealing, respectively, with a Catholic seminary, the US Marines and the internal structure of the Moonies. The results varied enormously, and the Moonies did not come top.

"There you are, you see," said my mum when I told her. "But anyway I'll have to go now. The adverts are over. The Street's on."

DAYS LIKE THESE

12 DECEMBER 1913

ALAN LASCELLES. later secretary to George V, records in his journal:

"I am still busy with Vanity Fair, when all is said and done, it is the most enthralling novel ever written, and for all its length and elaborateness of detail, how quickly it moves by comparison with the laboured prolixi ties of our modern character-chemists. There's one thing about Thackeray, though, which always irritates me, and that is his attitude towards servants. To begin with, they play far too large a part in most of his novels. I never want to know what the butler says, in real life or in fiction; and I don't believe one in a thousand of that parasitic race ever says or thinks anything worth recording; they are the freedmen of modern life, and it's the slaves or the aristoi who are interesting. And, in proportion to their dullness. most of them have good, fat, worthy hearts. Thackeray never can resist making them cads and opportunists.



and I'm not bringing the vulgar charge of snobbery against him."

18 DECEMBER 1825

SIR WALTER SCOTT (pictured), poet and novelist, records in his journal the financial disaster which left him £130,000 in debt

"Ballantyne called on me this morning. My extremity is come. Cadell has received letters from London which all but positively announce the failure of Hurst and Robinson, so that Constable and Co must follow, and I must go in

involve my all. But if they leave me £500 I can still make it £1,000 or £1,200 a year. And if they take my salaries of £1,300 and £300, they cannot but give me something out of them. I have been rash in anticipating funds to buy land, but then I made from £5,000 to £10,000 a year, and land was my temptation. Men will think pride has had a fall. Let them indulge their own pride in thinking that my fall makes them higher. I have the satisfaction that my prosperity has been of advantage to many, and that some at least will forgive my transient wealth on account of the innocence of my intentions, and my real wish to do good to the poor. The news will make sad hearts at Darnick, and in the cottages of Abbotsford [his estate in the Bordersl, which I do not nourish the least hope of preserving. My children are provided; thank God for that, I must end this, or I shall lose the tone of mind with which men should meet distress."

IAN IRVINE

The end of 1,000 years of history I UNDERSTAND and deeply frequently with the President of assembly with powers over them." This

sympathise with the people of France and of Germany in their desire to get rid of the conflicts which have so often broken out between them and which are all too fresh in our minds. However, I sometimes wonder whether the great problems of the world today are to be found in the unity or disunity of Western Europe. I would have said that there were two problems outstanding above all others: the problem of peace and the problem of poverty.

I know some will say with great sincerity: "But we recognise that, and we believe that, by Britain going into Europe, a great contribution can be made to these problems." Maybe so, but it is for them to submit the proof. So far it is hard to be convinced. For, although Europe has had a great and glorious civilisation, although Europe can claim Goethe and Leonardo, Voltaire and Picasso, there have been evil features in European history too Hitler and Mussolini and, today, the

attitude of some to the Congo problem. But here is another question we have to ask: what exactly is involved in the concept of political union? We hear a lot about it; we are told that the Economic Community is not just a customs union, that all who framed it saw it as a stepping stone towards political integration. We ought to be told what is meant by that, for, if this be true, more than talk, consult more



From a speech by Hugh Gaitskell, leader of the Labour Party, to his party's annual conference, at which he revealed his opposition to Britain joining the EEC

(3 OCTOBER 1962)

our entry into the Common Market carries with it some very serious political obligations. But when you

ask, it is not easy to get a clear answer. I can see only three possibilities outside the obligations that we accept specifically in the Treaty of Rome. It may mean that there is no obligation upon the government of Britain to do

France and the Chancellor of Germany. I see no harm in these talks, but I am not optimistic

But what else? If it is not just talking, what is it? The second possibility is majority decisions on political issues, just as we are to have majority decisions on economic issues. Do we want that? Well, I suppose you might say we would be able somehow or other to outvote those we disagree with. I would like to be very sure of that before I committed myself.

Then, of course, there is the idea and the ideal of federal Europe. Now, I know that it will be said by some: "Why bring up federation? It is not immediate, it is not imposed upon us, it may not happen." But we would be foolish to deny, not to recognise and indeed sympathise with the desire of those who created the Economic Community for political federation. That is what they mean, that is what they are after when they admit freely that, under the present constitution of the EEC, the assembly has no powers except the very far-reaching, overriding one, which they are most unlikely to use, of dismissing the Commission by a twothirds majority. When it is pointed out that the Commission is a body which has powers but is not responsible or under anybody's control, what is the is what they are arguing.

What does federation mean? It means that powers are taken from national governments and to federal parliaments. It means - I repeat it that, if we go into this, we are no more than a state (as it were) in the United States of Europe, such as Texas and California. They are remarkably friendly examples; you do not find every state as rich or having such good weather as those two! But I could take others: it would be the same as in Australia, where you have Western Australia, for example, and New South Wales. We should be like them. This is what it means; it does mean the end of Britain as an independent nation state. It may be a good thing or a bad thing but we must recognise that this is so...

We must be clear about this; it does mean, if this is the idea, the end of Britain as an independent European state. I make no apology for repeating it. It means the end of a thousand years of history. You may say: "Let it end." But, my goodness, it is a decision that

needs a little care and thought. And it does mean the end of the Commonwealth. How can one really seriously suppose that, if the centre of the Commonwealth is a province of Europe, it could continue to

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Absolute in media

exist as the mother country of answer? The answer they give us: a series of independent "That is why we should set up a federal nations? It is sheer nonsense.

المكذا من الاجل

THE SATURDAY ESSAY

The seasonal struggle of pressure and pleasure



RACHEL **BOWLBY**

But drawn back as though to the scene of a crime, I could not resist having a look to see if history would repeat itself

IT WAS the afternoon, if not the night, before Christmas. There were only two supermarket-shopping hours left before the beginning of that unreal, time-out-oftime, two days of total shoppinglessness.

Every good citizen, and especially every good mother, had long since filled fridge, freezer and every available household cavity with turkey, pudding, crackers, brussels sprouts peeled in advance, and everything else required or desired to survive or enjoy the interval. Or so it seemed if, like me, you were wandering along aisles that seemed suddenly empty. Gone were those tailback queues, the trolleys stockpiled with festive fortifications as though to last out the whole winter. Now there were just a few people merrily scurrying about with baskets and the air of a job long hone, picking up a few last things.

It was all as jolly as could be. My twoyear-old daughter, as yet unimpressed by the packets on the shelves, was grabbing all she could of the unaccustomed space in the aisles. I was thinking we might as well go and see what there was in the way of, say, turkeys, and even brussels sprouts, and especially smoked salmon, when the first of the announcements came up. "All items in the bakery department reduced to 10p. Extensive selection remaining, you are invited to come and look." A short pause. Then it was turkeys - down to £1. or was it 50p? Then it was maybe the e cream or the Anything you ever wanted for Christmas

Day you could have for next to nothing. We drifted about with the prices dropping audibly at every turn. Big yellow REDUCED stickers beckoned with offers you couldn't refuse. We could have had Christmas every day for the next year and still had change from - in fact, why not stop off for a couple of cut-price freezers on the way home and simply stock up now for 50 convenient Christmases to come? This, perhaps, would be a form of just return for

indeserved good fortune.
For the scandal was that we, the ungodly, the non-planners, the last-minute dissolute, were the ones who were being so magnificently rewarded. We had failed to attend regularly through December, carefully laying up our stores and buying always more than we meant. Imagine if all the others had known, the faithful of the full trolleys, the list-makers and impulsebuyers of all shades, all those who had filled and fulfilled the lures and demands of supermarket orthodoxy. For them, Christmas had been a long-term, long-month project, one which requires - and start in November, by all means! - that you spend Much in four weeks as you would in four ments of ordinary mistletoelessness.

Now, naturally, when we went up and asked the people energetically unloading the loaves and the fruit cakes, it turned out that no such dramatic drop of price or convention had been intended to gladden the hearts of the last shoppers - not even the cheery top-up crowd, let alone the feckless turkeyless few. There had been, it appeared, some almighty error of judgement that was certainly never to be repeated. Calculations in high places and on far-off computer screens had gone wrong.

Over-ordering based on mistaken predictions of levels of demand in the final days, not to say the final hours, had regrettably taken place. But the proof that the mistake was at least honest, and even some sense not a mistake because accurately based on the available evidence and premises, was that, not coincidentally,



A piece of cake: the stylish way of doing that last-minute Christmas shopping in 1935

the same thing was happening right now in East Grinstead. However, lessons would be learned. Next year, it would not be like this year.

And nor would L not daring a second time to risk the possible effects of a supply swing in the opposite direction. A year on. I was a reformed character. Planning and preparation had occurred. A bird awaited stuffing. A stocking awaited filling. And I Helena by now was picking up things that appealed to her off every reachable bit of shelf, and chucking them adeptly into the trolley whenever I wasn't looking. Supermarket shopping had become a newly dangerous business, not to be undertaken on a whim, still less without a plan.

But drawn back as though to the scene of a crime. I couldn't resist having a look. same time, same place, to see if history or fairytale would repeat itself on the afternoon of Christmas Eve. No such luck. This time there seemed to be very little fresh food left on the shelves, and nothing that was reduced beyond the usual half-hearted 20p or so. Maybe that wonderworld last year had all been a fig of the overheated Christmas imagination, a tale told to gullible toddlers and listless grown-ups to indulge and correct their misbehaviour for one magic and final moment.

Shopping at Christmas is pictured as a joyful, impulsive experience, at the same time as it is also meant to be meticulously planned. In this respect, it is like a magnified version of other kinds of shopping, striking an uneasy or intriguing balance between images of work and pleasure.

Get a list! Prepare in advance! Christmas shopping has to be done, and the sooner the better, to get it over with, all ticked off and ready. First the plan, then the purchase, then the event, in a straightforward, ordered sequence. A crucial prop is the sacred List, which in this once-a-year form oddly involves a mixture of people and commodities. An aunt is one thing, a box of chocolates another, but here they bump up as potentially compatible items, incongruous matches to be attempted between those in the category of the to-bebought-for and those in the category of the

to-be-bought. At the same time, have fun! Be spontaneous, open to inspirations of the moment. Christmas buying is now, but it is also a time of nostalgic echo and hopeful anticipation, recalling and remaking imagined Christmases past when the snow is always just starting to fall in soft white flakes and the presents have yet to be opened. Christmas shopping makes magical providers, finding the very thing for the very person, creating a surprise.

This double face of a commercial Christmas is nothing new. In two famous novels from the first half of the century, both sides appear in sharp relief, in the women who act out their roles. Jan Struthers's Mrs Miniver, the subject of sketches in The of middle-class Englishness. First becoming a novel, in 1942 she was made into a Hollywood film that was instrumental in swaying American public opinion in favour of entering the Second World War. And the thing about Mrs Miniver is that she does it all effortlessly.

In the book version, we see her returning from a successful day of Christmas shopping. All her Christmas shopping is gift shopping (she has servants to take care of the food), and no war is yet interfering with her whimsical meditations on her not very, but just planned enough attitude to buying presents, and her pleasure in the actual experience of finding just the right thing.

However much she might try to persuade herself to get it done early, she ponders, by pretending Christmas was on another date or that all her friends lived abroad, "Mrs Miniver knew very well that Christmas was not until the 25th of December, and that all the people on her list lived in England.

"Besides, successful present-choosing depends very largely on finding the right atmosphere, upon the contagious zest of crowds, upon sudden inspirations and perceptions, heightened rather than otherwise by a certain sense of pressure in space and time. To do it cold-bloodedly. in a half-empty shop, without any difficulty or competition, is as joyless as a mariage de convenance".

Hence, there is no point or pleasure in shopping before the middle of December, when the "pressure" of people and time has mounted up.

Mrs Miniver's self-congratulatory consummation is meant to convey the happiness of her matches. Pressure engenders not stress but a positive urge. Atmosphere, zest and inspirations far outweigh any sense of duty or necessity in what still remain as "all the people on her list". Mrs Miniver is effortlessly munificent, passionately punctilious, everybody's attractive mother.

At the other extreme, and 40 years

earlier, it would be difficult to find a more dreary scene of Christmas shopping than the one in Howards End. Forster writes:

"The crisis opened with a message: would Miss Schlegel come shopping? Christmas was nearing, and Mrs Wilcox felt behindhand with the presents. ... Margaret accepted, and at eleven o'clock one cheerless morning they started out in a

must make a list. My aunt always does, and the fog may thicken up at any moment." Then Mrs Wilcox tells Margaret to put her own name down first.

"Oh, hooray!" said Margaret, writing it." That is about as jolly as things get, as fogs of seasonal depression and annoyance duly drift between the two of them:

"They drove from shop to shop. ... At times they passed through a clot of grey. Mrs Wilcox's vitality was low that morning, and it was Margaret who decided on a horse for this little girl, a golliwog for that, for the rector's wife a copper warming-tray. We always give the servants money. Yes. do you? yes, much easier,' replied Margaret, but ... saw issuing from a forgotten manger at Bethlehem this torrent of coins and toys. Vulgarity reigned. ... A poster of a woman in tights heralded the Christmas pantomime, and little red devils, who had come in again that year, were prevalent upon the Christmas cards. ... How many of these vacillating shoppers and tired shop assistants realised that it was a divine event that drew them together?"

Nearly a century later - Howards End was published in 1910 - there may be some distraction to be found in the transformation of the golliwogs and copper warmingtrays into items of historical curiosity rather than purchasing potential. They evidently figure as permanent present possibilities at the time, while clearly there was also a definite sense of changing Christmas fashions in other areas, like greetings cards; though little red devils, in or out of

style, have not been seen for some time. Mrs Wilcox's depressive Christmas spirit and Margaret Schegel's censorious one get a necessary job done with a certain morbid efficiency, making the world appear a slightly less tolerable place in the process. No Mrs Miniver sparks here. Margaret's "hordes of purchasers" are in a different world altogether from Mrs Miniver's "contagious zest of crowds", Mrs Miniver manages to embody a remarkable mixture of blissful maternal generosity with multiple varieties of selfsatisfaction - in the moment of shopping in herself as inspired shopper, in her brilliant reflections on both. What a satisfying image, in its turn, of adorable femininity.

No supermarkets are yet available to require of these fictional ladies the foodbuying work that servants, somewhere offpage, are no doubt performing on their behalf while they go to buy their presents. But change the scene, and set them all at the end of the century.

Mrs Miniver's eyes light up as she starts to formulate some excited and pointed thoughts on the automatic pricing scales or the end-of-aisle display. Mrs Wilcox. sadly, becomes faint at the very first whiff of store-baked bread, leaving Margaret to go round resolutely locating every item on the list. Perhaps out loud this time (she is getting old), inviting strange looks from knowing toddlers, she delivers a fierce complaint at the contemporary conflation of commerce and spirituality, text slightly amended from 1910 version to allow for changes in detail. A PRICE REDUCED sticker on an advent calendar containing chocolates elicits her particular condemnation. Meanwhile, Mrs Miniver sails smugly by again, basket on arm, picks up a luxury assortment of nuts. "Vacillating shoppers and tired shop assistants' continue to circulate for the final hour, vaguely looking for yellow stickers or mechanically sticking them on.

Perhaps it is time to get out of here. A solitary Santa Ciaus, as though unsure whether this is the place he should be, is hovering at the top of the aisle like a ghost of department stores past. There are things to be done at home and it is, after all, getting late. Mrs Wilcox needs to have her early night and Mrs Miniver and Margaret will want to collect their consumerly thoughts together and wrap them up once more for rumination over the course of next year.

Never before could so much be seen, to despise or desire, under a single Christmas shopping roof. Christmas has come again and again, with its repetitions and its surprises, its pressures of pleasure and planning. But next year - and the thought gives Margaret a pang she did not expect to feel - will be different, and even final. For better or worse, it will be the last 20thcentury Christmas.

Rachel Bowlby is Professor of English at Oxford University. Her book, 'The Last Shopper', will be published by Faber in 1999

BAROMETER

SEAN O'GRADY

Soap of the week

Coronation Street. for years one of the few places in Britain lacking an Asian corner shop, or indeed many other representatives

of our rich ethnic mix, is to even things up a bit with a new black character. Excellent news, you might think, that our longest running soap, which prides itself on being "true to

life". is moving with the times. But within minutes of his debut, teenager Marcus (played by Joseph Jacobs), will burgle Curly Watts's home. Now, such racial stereotyping might satisfy the small-minded prejudices of the likes of Hilda Ögden and Ena Sharples, but perhaps the story line might have tried to be just a little, well, truer to life.

Jogger of the week



draws on for you – and your pet. Inured as we are to conspicuous consumption

hy spoilt animals, the "Cosipet Dog Jogging Suit" takes the Bonio. It's described thus: "The sporty look that keeps your dog warm and dry. Soft and comfortable to wear and easy to put on and take off using the single zip. The trouser legs are kept neatly in place by elasticated cuffs." At least the terrier looks happy.

Missing link of the

Just in case you were wondering. it's been found. Australopith ecus ramidus is South African, 3.5 million years old, and your

ancestor and

Goon of the week In the FBI's 10-in-

thick file on Frank discover that, Frank might have been lost to entertain--ment In 1947, the Bureau

notes:

"Sinatra enjoys surrounding himself with hoodlums and would give up his showbusiness prominence to be a hoodlum himself if he had the courage to do so". The G-men also documented the death threat in 1969 when Sinatra was asked to make a £1.2m donation to the Vatican (yes, really) in return for his life. (The man who made the threat was sent to a psychiatric home.) Frank's file is not on the FBI website (although Hitler's and Marilyn Monroe's are; but it is at: www.apbonline.com/ breaking news/frank/ download center.html Ring-a-ding-ding.

lmage of the week Naked Portrait With Reflection by Lucian Freud. It fetched £2.806.500, the most expensive modern painting ever sold in Europe. Freud is choosy about his subjects, preferring family and friends, and sometimes finds models among characters chanced upon in London clubs. Wonder if he has ever, by chance, met Ann Widdecombe?





Channel 4's Jon Snow

the housewife's darling, nor the our quirkier journalists on the radical changes in format. He may not have the celebrity status of certain anchormen, but this is set to is dictated by audience? change, for he has been awarded this year's most coveted interview with Monica Lewinsky.

Do the changes planned for Channel 4 News indicate a willingness to join in the general dumb-

ing-down of television? Absolutely not! I don't think really in the end that the presentation has

JON SNOW is one of TV's more dumbing down or dumbing up. The mysterious newsreaders. Neither content will determine which way it's going, and I would say our content arrogant pit-buil type, he is one of is definitely remaining of the highest order. The format is changing for serious-minded Channel 4 News. the better, We will be able more Refreshingly, he even approves of its accessibly to go into a little more depth without becoming tedious.

Would you say that news content No, not in our case. But that isn't to say that we are not concerned about ratings. We wouldn't want them to go down. In fact I hope they

will go up. Will the move of ITN's News at Ten' have a deleterious effect on your ratings?

Actually, no. I think it will act in very much effect on whether you are our favour. People won't be home in in which I most want to work and the

COLD CALL

SALLY CHATTERTON RINGS JON SNOW

time for it. But also because given programme that I most want to do. the conjunction of news at 6pm, 6.30pm and 7pm, people will have a broad choice and may opt for some- fall into someone else's camera thing more in depth. When there is shot or fall out of your own shot. The something hot in the air, they may want a bit more and hop across.

You have no intention of hopping channels to escape the new purple sofa and orange interview desk? No. This is now the environment admire?

I've been very restricted previously. You have to sit very, very still or you'll new set-up will be easy. Instead of thinking about what you're looking like, you can think of content and relax when you're interviewing.

Which interviewers do you most

I certainly admire Paxo. In some chosen. I think it will be extremely

ways he's lucky to be on at that time of night when you can do a more, a more, how shall we say - extravagant interview than we could do at 7pm. But I don't really see newsreading as a craft; it either works or it doesn't. If it doesn't, you don't last long. People inside the industry try to pretend that TV is a skilled and acquired talent. But the camera either loves you or hates you. And if it loves you, you're on your way.

Have you ever had a role model? I don't think I've been strongly influenced, I think about stories or interviewees.

You must be thinking about Monica at the moment. Yes. I'm very pleased to have been interesting because we've never heard her speak, apart from on those tapes, which were recorded in unheinful circumstances. Is there anything you're burning

to ask her? Lots of things. But I don't want to... Er... But I'm teeing it all up.

What are your impressions of the Clinton débácle?

It's a very interesting signal of what is happening to us. Before the Berlin wall came down, nobody would have risked this play with the private life of a world leader. Now we live in a time of global peace everyone's fair game; we've become interested in the more personal aspects of life. We're in a strange new world news disorder.

Confessions of a local league martyr

TURNING STRAIGHT to the sports pages as usual - doesn't everyone? - I scanned last weekend's results with my usual half-attention, on the look-out for something out of the ordinary. The television news had already informed us that England had beaten South Africa at rugby, an unlikely outcome that went some way towards making up for the usual Ashes debacle in the cricket against Australia.

In football, the Premiership yielded very little of interest: draws all round at the top – Villa, Manchester United, Chelsea and Arsenal – not many goals; and there will certainly be no giant-killing in the FA Cup until January. As for the Beazer Homes and Auto Windscreen leagues...

Slowly it dawned on me that there was only one result I

really cared about, and Sunday's action in the Wandsworth and District Senior Football League was not recorded in any newspaper. This, after all, was the league in which I should have been playing, had the fixture not clashed horrendously with a prior engagement – the children's annual expedition to the Christmas pantomime, organised by my mother as long ago as last summer (tickets are like gold dust, so there was no hope of juggling the dates).

As in any family where sport looms large, my wife and I have negotiated an accommodation over the years – I am permitted to play sport on the provisos that I don't leave my dirty kit lying around the house, I don't end up in the casualty ward, and it doesn't interfere with

family activities (which means that squash during my lunch break is a highly favoured option). I have one friend who enjoys playing rugby and golf. No problem, says his wife, but you can't play both – there's just not enough time. So he plays rugby now, on the basis that he will be able to play golf for many years to come – and it is this, I am convinced, that explains why my friend is still playing scrum against men half his years, after 30 or more

seasons of the sport.
So I resolved to take it on the chin and duly forget about my match. I did what I had to do without grumbling: informed the week's team manager that I would not be available, chauffeured the family to the theatre, yelled "Oh Yes You Are" and "He's Behind You" at the top of my voice, and enjoyed

PARK LIFE



every minute, every appalling pun of Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves. But as soon as I arrived home and picked up the newspapers, I started itching to know the score.

MILLAR

Perhaps I should not have

been surprised to discover that I still cared so much; after all, my son Darcy and his comrades in the under-eights are beginning to get dangerously worked up about their Saturday morning football matches. The only difference with my somewhat maturer team is that we have learnt to hide

our feelings.

No, what caught me unawares was the guilty realisation that I wasn't sure quite what result I was hoping for. Playing for a team is a very different and much more complicated matter than merely supporting one.

The supporter's favoured result is straightforward: you simply want your team to win every game five-nil (with the exception of Arsenal fans, who perversely prefer one-nil, and English cricket supporters, who

pray for rain as the safest way of securing a draw). But my speculations on the possible score-line from the Battersea Bees (my team) versus the British Museum led me to a number of scenarios – none of which, I am ashamed to admit, showed me in a particularly good light.

I ran the range through my mind. Naturally, I favoured a win for the boys; but what if my replacement was the star player on the day, and was now un-droppable? Would I ever play for my team again? If it was a draw, might my presence just have tipped the balance – in which case my absence would not be forgiven in a hurry?

And if we had lost? Well, as a nominal striker with one (easy) goal to my name all season, I would be unable to claim that the team lacked my fire-power, but perhaps they valued my willingness to chase hoofed clearances and generally annoy the opposition all morning.

I rang my friend and teammate Tim, who broke the news: a one-all draw, secured by means of an equalising goal during the last few minutes of play. "We missed your pace up front," he added, which was probably the nicest thing anyone outside my immediate family has said to me all year.

So thanks, Tim, I can sleep at night now, secure in the knowledge that my place in the team is safe

And I've just checked the future list: unless I'm very much mistaken, I'm duty manager for the next game, which is doubly reassuring. After all, I'm bound to

If you're calling loved ones abroad this Christmas, here's the icing on the cake.



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Seeking asylum from the press

For the director of Kent's social services dealing with the Romanian gipsy refugees, this has been a very long week. By Mary Braid

t's been a tough time for Kent social services director Jan Askew, made all the tougher when screaming headlines and public complaints about scrounging gypsies have drowned out reason and compassion.

Tracked by baying tabloids. scores of Romanian women and children, recently discovered in a truck at Dartford, are being secretly moved around Kent like criminals for their own protection. After the public backlash over their stay at a local hotel, the authorities refused vesterday to reveal their latest location.

latest location.

As Kent struggles with an unprecedented rise in illegal immigrants. Ms Askew and her staff are finding their statutory duty to aid asylum seekers an increasingly lonely task. A veteran of civil disasters. Ms Askew says the public are usually sympathetic during human emergencies. But many locals seems increasingly hostile to immigrants – particularly large groups – who turn up in Kent hidden in lorries, asking for sanctuary from persecution at home.

at home.

If the public are hostile, certain sections of the media are near hysterical. Ms Askew is too diplomatic to use the word "harassment", but there is no doubt that "intense press interest" has made a hard job even harder.

When the 103 Romanians, including babies as young as two months, were discovered at Dartford, the numbers took west Kent's breath away. Ms Askew was drafted in because of her experience at Dover, where most of Kent's immigrants arrive. She has worked pretty much "24 hours a day" on the crisis ever since it began.

The immigration flood began in October 1997, when 200 Czechs and Slovaks arrived at Dover. Kosovo Albanians are the latest to arrive in large numbers, fleeing from the continuing conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Ms Askew says Kent is also seeing a worrying rise in the numbers of unaccompanied children arriving in its ports, often from the old Yugoslavia. The majority are 14-16 years old, although the youngest was just eight.

"They turn up knowing no English, severely traumatised by war," she says "Often they don't know what has happened to their parents. We treat them as we would a British child."

The moving of the Romani-



Jan Askew

ans to a hotel, in the midst of already raging controversy, was surely a political mistake. But the truth is that Kent is running out of places to put "illegals" while their amnesty applications are considered. Over 2,000 have turned up this year, an increase of 60 per cent on the year before. "Kent is saturated," says Ms Askew. "All the B&Bs are full up."

And while the county council is refusing to use its annual budget to fund the immigration crisis – it declares the cost, at least £4m this year, as a direct overspend – the numbers are putting immense strain on its social workers. "I have been a social worker for 25 years," says Ms Askew. "And this is absolutely unprecedented."

absolutely unprecedented. "
Ms Askew says that, beyond
her legal obligations, it is hard
not to feel compassion for
the people who pitch up. The
Romanians currently being
hounded arrived in Britain with
no belongings, claiming they
had sold everything they owned
to pay for illegal passage and
their escape from the "violent"
Romanian police.

On arrival, women and children were separated from the men, who were yesterday still at a detention camp. Separation from the traditional heads of family has greatly upset the women and children.

Even those who sympathise with the plight of immigrants say the current asylum application procedure takes too long – up to a year in some cases – particularly when so few are finally granted leave to stay. Ms Askew says providing housing, education and benefits during the wait is stretching Kent to its limits. In its new White Paper on immigration, she says, the Government acknowledges the problem. "The system justicannot cope with these volumes," she says.

EEKEND REVIEW,

Stu Ungar, the sharpest card in the pack died, aged 45, in a Las Vegas dive

To live and die in Vegas

There was nothing Stu Ungar didn't know about playing no-limit poker. Unfortunately he knew nothing about anything else. By Andrew Gumbel

making money; he just had no idea how to keep it. In a fast and furious career, he hustled his way from New York's Lower East Side to Las Vegas, making and losing millions so fast that. in his own words, money lost all meaning for him. He could play poker like nobody else on the planet, but he also burned his way through several fortunes, threw away a 10year long marriage, drugged himself up to the eyeballs and, by the end. could barely stand up. or speak in more than an incoherent babble.

Ungar was known as the sharpest card-player in the business, a legend in his own lifetime. But, like all Las legas legends, he was destined to finish badly. He went out sordidly, stupidly, wastefully. Exhausted by years of drug abuse and the batterings of a town that loves to reward a winner all the better to rob him blind, he checked into a cheap hotel on the lower end of Sunset Strip and never checked out again.

His pale, emaciated body was found face up on the bed where he had lain, miserable and alone, for two days and two nights of delirium and despair - the ultimate Lost Weekend. He had no possessions with him apart from \$800 in cash. It was all that he owned in the world.

Las Vegas is the sort of place that chews up people like Stu Ungar and spits them out again with no more than a twinge of conscience. For 20 years Ungar negotiated the rapids of the most tantalising and most dangerous city in America, with more naïvety than cunning. Pushed out of most card games because he kept winning, he was forced into the highest-stakes contests, particularly a poker variant called Texas Hold 'em, where winnings, and losses, are reckoned in the millions.

In his drive to win tournament after tournament, Ungar also became hooked on drugs, on the shady money-men who kept him solvent, Even when he was not playing cards he could not restrain his impulse to gamble, throwing away his fabulous a stroke, forcing him to drop out of winnings almost as soon as he had earned them on horses, or football games, or any other book in town.

His was a life of dependency dependency on the hotels and flophouses that were the closest thing to home he ever knew, dependency on the cocaine that kept him on the sort of highs that even Las Vegas could not provide, dependency on the friends and associates who pushed him in the direction best served by their own interests, not his.

He lived as long as he did - he died at 45 – perhaps because he did not fully understand the implications of what was going on around him.

"He did not understand much about anything except poker," said the former hotel casino owner Bob Stupak, "Stu wouldn't know how to pay an electricity bill. I don't even know if he had a driver's licence."

The stories about Ungar are as touching as they are crazy. In 1980 he was invited to play at an international tournament in Ireland, but he did not have a passport. When he went to the passport office he was Jeff Scheid/AP told he might have to pay a little

tu Ungar knew all about extra to get his application processed in time for his departure. Without ffinching, Ungar pulled out a roll of 100-dollar bills. "That's what Stu thought the guy meant by a few extra dollars," Stupak recounted.

On another occasion, Ungar decided it was time to buy a car. So he went to the fanciest car dealership in Las Vegas and bought a top-of-therange Mercedes - in cash. For a year he gunned around town beaming with pride, until one day he ground to a halt on the highway. A mechanic later told him he had burnt the whole thing out because the oil sump was empty. "Why the hell didn't they tell me you had to put oil in the car?" he demanded.

His daughter Stefanie, now 16, remembers visiting him and seeing a discarded letter from President Bush inviting him to the White House. "I asked Dad if he was going to go and he said No. I said, Dad, you know how rare it is to get an invite to the White House?' He said: 'What would I talk to the President about? We have nothing in common'."

For all the Vegas glitz that Ungar became part of, he never strayed far from his roots as the son of a barowning bookie on New York's Lower

'Fabulous winnings and even more fabulous debts succeeded one another with ever more demonic speed'

East Side, traditionally the roughest neighbourhood in Manhattan. When he was 10, Ungar gained his card apprenticeship on holiday in the Catskill mountains, learning gin rummy from the waiters at the hotel where his family was staying, then beating was 13 his father died and a year later his mother was paralysed by school to live on his wits.

Ungar gravitated towards the only world where he could use his skills, learning how to win thousands of dollars in poker clubs frequented by mob members. In one gin rummy session he won \$10,000, only to blow it at the races a few days later.

Fabulous winnings and even more fabulous debts succeeded one another with ever more demonic speed until, in 1978. Ungar hotfooted it to Las Vegas to escape the wrath of a bookmaker to whom he owed tens of thousands of dollars. Almost immediately, he won the \$50,000 first prize in a gin rummy competition, enabling him to clean his slate and start afresh - although Las Vegas's first act was to ban him

from the game he played so well. Nevada brought Ungar face to face with the twin demons in his life: Texas Hold 'em and cocaine. The former turned him into an overnight sensation when he won the World -Series of Poker on his first attempt in 1980 and then held on to his title the following year. He was nick-named The Kid, partly because he

partly because of his diminutive eight (just 5ft 5in) and boyish looks.

The cocaine started out as an emblem of his success, but was to prove his undoing. Ungar had married a waitress he had met in a New York club and the couple produced a daughter in 1982. But their happiness was short-lived. His cocaine consumption was so excessive that it destroyed his nostrils, forcing him to wear blue-tinted granny glasses to conceal spaced-out eyes and ravaged nose. "I did coke to keep up," Ungar explained in an interview with the New York magazine Icon a few weeks before he died. "You use it as an excuse to stay up and play poker. But then you take it home with you..." The drug habit also brought him dangerously close to Mafia enforcers, who both sold him the drugs and lent him money to tide him through his barren patches.

His contacts included the legendarily violent Tony Spilotro, another notoriously short man, nicknamed "The Ant", whose lightly fictionalised counterpart was played by Joe Pesci in Martin Scorsese's movie Casino. It wasn't a comfortable relationship, but Ungar kept winning just enough to avoid retribution.

As the years passed and his highs and lows became ever more volatile, Ungar won no fewer than 10 major no-limit poker titles. He also found himself with stomach ulcers and colitis. At one competition in 1991, he played with a tooth abscess and a high fever. By the mid-Nineties, he seemed to have dropped out of the sport altogether - a sad genius whose talents had gone to seed.

But there were still a few people who believed in Ungar, and in 1997 they backed him to victory in his third World Series championship. "That was by far my greatest performance ever," a stunned Ungar said after he had beaten off the challenges of 300 rivals to win \$1.1m.

In May 1998, Ungar was all set to defend his title, but he was so ill that room in Binion's casino, venue of the competition. He had blown his million in two months and was back to binge drug-taking, mostly smoking crack cocaine through a pipe now that his nose was long gone.
Bob Stupak was the last in a long

list of sponsors who believed Ungar could still be turned around. Two days before his death, the two of them did a deal whereby Stupak assumed his debts and agreed to act as his manager. He also gave Ungar \$2,000 in "walking around money" to

On the fatal weekend, Ungar was supposed to be with a minder provided by Stupak, but he gave him the slin, saying he was taking his daughter out for a birthday treat. After his first night at the Oasis Motel a bellhop found him shaking furiously on his bed. After his second night, the same bellhop found him dead.

"He was the best," Stupak said after the discovery of Ungar's body. "You can't expand on that." The best, however, in an unforgiving world that never sought to understand Stu Ungar, eventually sucked the talent out of him, and let him die the most frightening and lonely of deaths in

The loneliness of the last-minute card sender

This Monday will be the Post Office's busiest day of the year with over 140 million deliveries. And Ann Treneman will have sent none of them

Christmas card. Did I feel joy? Well, yes, but only briefly. The card itself was fine, but then I saw that there means that 140 million letters and were happy, smiling pictures enclosed. My heart sank. My friend had also sent me a long and chatty letter. Typed! "Now I know the bought them yet. I sympathise, besecret to getting your Christmas cause deciding on a card can be cards off on time," the letter began. "Disability leave!"

My friend, it seems, has a detached retina. My reaction? Jeal- image that will embody your good ousy, really. How am I supposed to wishes for the entire year. send back a long, chatty letter, and enclose happy smiling pictures that be grateful that you are not rich or I haven't even taken, and pick a famous, or even a politician. Have tasteful card, and mail it in time for you seen No 10's card this year? It the big day? It is easy to succumb, at such times, to despair.

This is a Diseasonal Response, I know, and it won't be the last. The to draw in little Christmas crackers Christmas card season has begun in earnest. The Post Office says that its busiest day will be Monday, when it expects to deliver 140 million let-

have not begun sending cards yet, this is a horrendous figure. That cards are being delivered before we have even managed to send one.

Some of you may not even have when it is impossible to decide on a

At this point, though, you have to shows the place-setting for a hunch put on for Nelson Mandela. What does this mean? Are we supposed beside every plate?

William Hague's card has a bleak scene with some black-faced sheep

"to a load of nobs". This may seem Aunt Carol is the only one I know who doesn't send cards. Perhaps this is a reaction to being named after sections. A friend suggests that the breakfast cereal, much less pick the a Christmas carol (her birthday is close to the big day), but it is also

> could say the same. Which brings us to the Christmas card list. The main rule about this is that, no matter how many names you cross off, it never gets shorter. a breeze, really. Good friends, busi-Not that I ever cross anyone off - I ness acquaintances and children remean, I send cards to people that I have never even met.

course, because very few of us

Nor am I alone. A friend tells me that every year, she gets a card from

YESTERDAY I received my first ters and cards. For those of us who vatives have not had a joyful year. are extremely distant relatives. One Nor has Frank Dobson. The year her mother gave this couple her Health Secretary says he is not address, and every year since then going to waste time sending cards they have sent her a card, complete with a Christmas letter that is full Scrooge-like, but it is in fact a won- of news about their illnesses. Every derful gift to all those nobs who don't year she crosses them off her list, want to send him a card either. My and every year, after receiving their card, she relents.

It is helpful to divide the list into first section could be labelled "Phatic". This is the kind of comrather sensible. And brave, of munication that exists to establish social contact. The very act of sending a card is the message. You need only scribble a name (possibly not even your own) at the bottom. There are plenty of other sections that are quire only the briefest of efforts usually, as long as you can remember how to spell everyone's name. But then there are the relatives

fighting an avalanche. The Conser- a couple called the Bravefarts who whom you contact only at Christmas, William Hague's Christmas card - a bleak landscape

who require a letter. These are an art form in themselves, as you are writing to a virtual stranger, and are allowed to tell them only happy things. No mention of failure, redundancy or illness here, please.

Or if you must mention it, then there must be a happy resolution. Do not say: "I lost all my teeth and can only gum bananas now." Do say: "I've had a bit of trouble with my teeth, but now all that has been fixed and I feel better than ever on a banana diet."

I keep waiting for the backlash. and for the Campaign for Real Christmas Cards, which would encourage people to send cards only to people they care about, pass on both good and bad family news and enclose the normal red-eyed photographs.

Somehow I suspect that I am waiting in vain. In the meantime, there is always the faint hope of disability leave.

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The Most Rev Henry McAdoo

EARLY IN the spring of 1994, a large envelope arrived with the morning post at the Rectory in Guildford I recognised straight away the elegant back hand in royal blue washable and knew that ...I was in for a treat.

Inside was an extended essay of : 30,000 words on the eucharistic the-...ology of the Anglican tradition. It represented the distilled and reflective mind of a man who had lived with all the questions of continuity and discontinuity at the Reformation, as well as the intricacies of ecumenical dialogue in our own time. But the letter accompanying this manuscript was neither a suggestion nor an invitation nor a challenge, but a command - for me to write a corresponding essay, of the same length, so that together our first (and only) joint book could be published. to try to get across to a fresh generation the importance and distinctiveness of Anglican theology in the -sacrament of unity.

Neither of us made any claim to originality in The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Anglican Tradition (as it appeared the following year), but we were helping - in our different styles - to alert Christians of all persuasions who were trying to understand each other and their own traditions better.

Henry McAdoo issued these commands, but those of us who knew and loved him well realised that they -came from a warm heart and a ready imagination. Stories about him abound in the Church of Ireland in much the same way that they did in

In McAdoo's 'moral-ascetic theology' discipleship and prayer lived side . by side, and tradition developed, interpreted by scripture and reason

England about the late Archbishop Michael Ramsey, who invited McAdoo, with all his wealth of knowledge of 17th-century Anglicanism, to serve as the first Anglican cochairman of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, from 1969 to 1981.

Those were the heady years of forward strides as that distinguished commission sat down to thrash out official agreements on Eucharist and ministry, "at the level of faith" - as I once heard Harry McAdoo's Roman Catholic partner, Bishop Alan Clark, described it. However complex the process of clarification and reception that these agreements

would not have seen the light of day without McAdoo's firm historical grasp of principle and his careful ear as to how others might hear it.

McAdoo was born in Cork and ed-Deated at Cork Grammar School and Mountjoy School in Dublin. He was a brilliant scholar, and earned both his doctorates, the first by thesis, the second for published work, on Anglican theology. His first major work, The Structure of Caroline Moral Theology, appeared in 1949; its main achievement was to draw fresh attention to the way in which writers such as Jeremy Taylor - to whom he remained particularly devoted combined the attractiveness and demand of the Christian gospel with practical ways in which Christians could "progress" in their discipleship. Although in some ways dated now, that book's message remains at the forefront of many churches today, not only Anglican.

Then followed, in 1965, The Spirit of Anglicanism, a study of 17thcentury Anglican theology which covers writers as diverse as Richard Hooker and Lancelot Andrewes, as well as Edward Stillingfleet and Simon Patrick. He argued repeatedly that what later generations described as "Anglican" was neither compromised nor fudged, but a conscious and reflective determination to hold together the paradoxes of Christian tradition, and to see a genuine quest for truth and divine revelation in that work.

He became a convinced advocate of the ordination of women, and last have since received, they simply year published a book entitled An-



Catholic Bishop of East Anglia, at a 1977 press conference for the launch of their publication Authority in the Church

Ordination of Women. McAdoo's theological writing was done not in the university world, but as a parish priest, in the diocese of Cork, where he served as an incumbent and then Dean of the Cathedral, until his consecration as Bishop of Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin in 1962, after which he was Archbishop of Dublin, from 1977 to 1985. As Bishop of Ossory from 1962 to 1977 he served the City of Kilkenny well, and was proud to bear the title of Freeman. It is at Kilkenny that he will be buried on Monday.

Harry McAdoo was a warm family man, and married Lesley Weir at Waterford in 1940, and they were the

glicans and Tradition and the proudparents of Anne, Gabrielle, and Martin. To sit at table with him, surrounded by his family was an experience I shall never forget. The anecdotes rolled forth, from meeting the Pope to fly-fishing. And, through the billows of tobacco smoke, one was aware of being in the presence of a scholar pastor of rare ability.

In 1989 McAdoo - already four years into retirement - published The Eucharistic Theology of Jeremy Toylor Today, which is perhaps one of his most distinguished pieces of work. The book is not only an exposition of a neglected and original figure in the founding years of Anglicanism, but a work of true ecumenism, in which McAdoo reto that adopted by the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, no less!

Again and again, he used a muchloved phrase, "moral-ascetic theology". This was the heart of Harry McAdoo's theology, in which discipleship and prayer lived side by side, and tradition developed, interpreted by scripture and reason. His lifelong discipleship leaves many

KENNETH STEVENSON

Henry Robert McAdoo, priest: born Cork 10 January 1916; ordained deacon 1939, priest 1940; Incumbent of Castleventry with Ardfield 1943- Dublin 10 December 1998.

peatedly compared Taylor's method 48, with Kilmeen 1947-48; Rector of Kilmocomogue 1948-52; Rural Dean of Glansalney West and Bere 1948-52: Canon of Kilbrittain in Cork Cathedral and Canon of Donoughmore in Cloyne Cathedral 1949-52; Dean of Cork 1952-62; Canon of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin 1960-62; Bishop of Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin 1962-77; member, Anglican-Roman Catholic Preparatory Commission 1967-68; Joint Chairman, Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission 1969-81; Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland 1977-85; married 1940 Lesley Weir (one son, two daughters); died Dalkey, Co

John Addison

JOHN ADDISON may well be best recalled by music historians as a master of the lightweight whimsical school of melody, to pified by his themes for movies such as Tom Jones, Sleuth and the American television series Muder She Wrote, yet what is often overlooked is a substantial body o' work that covers all genres of .ılm music, plus ballet, theatre : nd concert works that display a versatility that has inevitably been overshadowed by his handful of popular "hits".

Born in 1920 into a military background, Addison was educated at Wellington College, on the assumption that he would follow in the family tradition. Happily, his evident musical talents led to a change of direction and he enrolled at the Royal College of Music in his teens: unhappily, the Second World War almost immediately intervened and he swiftly enlisted in the family regiment - the 22nd Hussars (formerly cavalry, by this time a tank unit). He saw active service across Europe and North Africa and by the time of his demob he had risen to the rank of Captain.

Resuming his musical education at the RCM he studied composition under Gordon Jacob, piano with Herbert Fryer and clarinet with Leon Goossens. Subsequently, at the absurdly young age of 30, he was himself appointed Professor of Composition, a post he held until 1957, when other commitments became

too overwhelming. Already by 1948 Addison had become a figure worth watching winning the RCM's coveted Sullivan Award for Composition and shortly afterwards having his Sextet for Woodwind performed at the Festival of the International Society for Contemporary Music in Frankfurt. Roy Boulting had actually ap-

. . . $3\cdot 124$

Commissions flooded in from the BBC, the Cheltenham Festival, and even the Proms. Addison was now the golden boy of the culture-hungry Festival of Britain years, and amazingly prolific, with works including chamber music, choral items and a concerto for trumpet and orchestra.

For their 1953 season the Sadler's Wells ballet company commissioned a new work from him, and in collaboration with the choreographer Walter Gore, Carte Blanche was ready to premiere in September of that year at the Edinburgh Festival. With its vivacious circus setting, it was described by one critic as "a light-hearted divertissement, where anything goes", and proved a substantial success, playing back in London until the beginning of the following year and remaining in the company repertoire thereafter. The music itself was adapted into a suite by the composer and became

> 'The composer for the Angry Young Men'

a favourite "lollipop" in concerts con-ducted by the likes of Sir Thomas Beecham, George Szell and even Leopold Stokowski.

Amidst this whirlwind of activity, Addison was also embarking on what was to become his primary profession - film music, which officially began in 1950 with the Boulting Brothers' Seven Days To Noon (cowritten by the soon-to-be film composer James Bernard). Many years later, Addison claimed that in 1942



Addison, right, receiving an award at the Evening Standard Drama Awards, 1957 Hulton Getty

Rock, a wartime fantasy starring Michael Redgrave. Boulting, he said, encouraged him to follow the seafaring thread of the storyline and score for just a concertina and percussion. According to Addison, when the film was released it featured "an 80-piece orchestra" playing a

symphonic-style score by Hans May. True or not, the Boultings made amends by giving him a piano solo on the soundtrack of Fame is the Spur (1947) and the school song for

award-winning Seven Days, Addison's film assignments began to build at an extraordinary pace: Pool of London (1951), a moody Ealing picture, High Treason (1952), a Ruritanian spy film with Douglas Fairbanks Jnr. two big productions for MGM British, The Hour of 13 (1952) and Time Bomb (1953), and in the same year Carol Reed's The

Man Between which more than

proached him to work on Thunder, The Guinea Pig (1948). After the Though it was frequently cited as a pale remake of The Third Man, the solitary saxophone motif played by Dave Shand echoing across the bomb-ravaged landscapes of West Berlin gave the movie a haunting quality (and sold a few records too, for Ron Goodwin and Cyril Stapleton).

In 1956 Addison again tried his hand at live work, this time in col-laboration with the dancer John

cluded the young Anthony Newley (1964) to George Melly's Brechtian and later Annie Ross. It ran at the Swinging Sixties musical comedy St Martin's and later Duchess Theatres for over 200 performances, transferring successfully to Broadway. Their follow-up show. Keep Your Hair On (1958), sadly notched up just 20 performances.

Meanwhile Addison had been Richardson as resident composer for Theatre in Sloane Square, and through 1957 and 1958 John Osborne's The Entertainer and Lather, plus works by Brecht, Ionesco and John Arden, were graced by Addison's incidental scoring.

When Richardson transferred his talents to the screen Addison was ready to work on the celluloid remakes. Sometimes unjustly referred to as "the composer for the Angry Young Men", he certainly scored several of the most socially significant movies of the late Fifties and early Sixties including Look Back in Anger, A Taste of Honey and Olivier's reprise of Archie Rice in The Entertoiner. The songs "Thank God We're Normal" and "Why Should I Care?", with pseudo-music-hall lyrics by John Osborne, are now looked back upon as grim anthems for the post-Suez generation.

Richardson's change of course with the period romp Tom Jones was matched by Addison's exuberant score, mostly a duet of piano and harpsichord. The film was an unexpected world-wide hit and the score won Addison an even more unexpected Oscar at the 1963 Academy Awards.

He was now notching up three to four scores a year, and the variety of styles he successfully tackled anything consolidated Addison's po-sition as one of the major players. Cranks, with a company that in-martial score for Guns at Batasi

Smashing Time (1967), the lyrical nostalgia of Country Dance (1969) and the downright weirdness of Mr Forbush and the Penguins (1971), Addison took all in his stride. With Sleuth (1971) he was back

into the genre of music-hall/Victorian brought in by his friend Tony melodrama, and received an Academy Award Nomination. Finally, in new productions at the Royal Court 1977, his score for A Bridge Too For earned him an overdue acknowledgement from his peers with a Bafta British Academy Award. This event would appear to have

consolidated something in his life, because almost immediately afterwards he moved permanently to the United States, where he embarked on the more lucrative but perhaps less artistically satisfying business of television movies and mini-series. There was certainly no sign of his

losing momentum: the massive 21hour mini-series Centennial (1978) was entirely scored by him, as was the Pearl Harbor epic Pearl (1979), and he had little trouble adapting himself to quintessentially American subjects. One of his last featurelength films was the 1988 television movie Beryl Markham, which was also one of the last directorial efforts of Tony Richardson,

With the syndicated success of the internationally popular series Murder She Wrote (1984-96), and its irresistibly lively theme. John Addison could put his feet up and count the royalties after a long and honourable musical career.

ALEXAND: 2 GLEASON

John Mervyn Addison, composer: born Cobham, Surrey 16 March 1920; married (two sons, one daughter, and one daughter deceased); died 7 December 1998.

Daniel Williams

WHEN AS a young graduate Daniel Williams was appointed to his first racademic post, as a medievalist in the Department of History at Leicester University, a member of the interviewing board commented that he would make the students love medieval history.

It was a true prophecy: for Danny Williams had an infectious enthusiasm, a talent for vivid presentation. and a wry sense of humour, which made his lectures an experience not to be missed they were illustrated by anecdotes quoted from original sources, and enlivened by asides, and by the occasional practical demonstration such as how to hold your lance while riding a horse.

His courses were always over-

subscribed. Re brought historical events to life by bringing home the human side of what had happened: the feel of cold steel between the rihs, the shock of summary execution. But it was not only the drama which enthralled his students: he gave to each of them personal attention and encouragement, creating the confidence to realise their full potential and a love of the subject which remained with them for the rest of their lives.

In his undergraduate days at Aberystwyth, the course in Medieval English History devoted so much time to the early centuries that it failed to proceed further than the Norman Conquest: Williams referred to it as "1066 and that's that!" At Leicester, where he remained nual Transactions of the Leicester-

until his sudden death, his research and teaching interests came to be focused on the later Middle Ages, prompted by his commitment to the history of the locality, and especially its associations with Richard III.

He was the historical adviser who worked with Leicestershire County Council's team to locate and develop as a tourist attraction the site of the Battle of Bosworth. His account of the battle site has been reprinted many times since its publication in 1973. A new, fuller edition was published in 1996, with a characteristically lively text and illustrations drawn from contemporary

From 1975 to 1989 he edited the anthree of the resulting volumes of the

shire Archaeological and Historical Society (volumes 50-63), to which he was also a valued contributor, notably on William Catesby, Richard III's supporter, and on William Burton's manuscript revisions of his 17thcentury Description of Leicestershire. Biographies of William Burton

and of Richard III were among his ongoing preoccupations. When in 1984 the British campus of the University of Evansville, Indiana, began at Harlaxton Manor in Lincolnshire its series of interdisciplinary conferences on the 12th to 15th centuries, Williams was among the first members. He contributed papers on the period chosen each year for attention, and also edited

The continuing publication of what is now known as the Harlaxton Interdisciolinary Symposium on Medieval Studies is an indication of the success of what was a pioneering venture bringing together researchers in history, art and literature, of

which Williams was a founder. His colourful turn of phrase, apparent and perpetuated in his writing, made his teaching immensely popular not only with university students but also with Adult Education classes, and with the general public in his many outside lectures to local and national history societies and groups. He rapidly established a warm rapport with au-

annual conference's Proceedings. out of doors when guiding enthusiasts over Bosworth field, or at his favourite Fotheringhay (where Mary Queen of Scots was executed), with its Yorkist connections.

Always personally hesitant. Danny Williams was perhaps not fully aware of the extent to which his teaching and his human touch were appreciated and valued.

A. K. B. EVANS

Daniel Thomas Williams, medieval historian: born Farnham, Surrey 30 September 1937; Assistant Lecturer in Medieval History, Leicester University 1966-68, Lecturer 1968-98; married 1963 Anne Roberts (tuo) sons; marriage dissolved 1994); diences, whether in lecture halls or died Leicester 25 November 1998.



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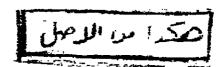
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ENGAGING VI

TODAY: Prince February Patren at the ball of the Exchange Treater

المكذا من الاجل



Judge Peter Stanley Price

Price ended with the controversy which followed the sentence of 12 months' imprisonment, with eight of them suspended, imposed by him at Leeds Crown Court in the autumn of 1982.

The defendant had pleaded guilty to the rape of a six-year-old girl and because of time served on remand was released after 25 days. He was then seen on the street by his distressed victim. The case naturally caused a furore, with Stanley Price being castigated by the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, who told the House of Commons that she found it "totally incomprehensible".

In fact, what Stanley Price had done was to sentence according to the facts as he saw them. He believed the man should only have been convicted of indecent assault and, given his good character and work record and the fact that he had been beaten up in prison, he had imposed what was seen as a wholly inadequate sentence.

An immediate consequence was a directive from Lord Hailsham that only certain qualified judges should hear rape cases. There were calls that Stanley Price should be sacked and indeed he retired, a year early, the following February. Stanley Price's decision was one of the key factors in the lengthening of sentences to an effective minimum of five years in such cases.

He was born in 1911, shortly before his parents, Gertrude and Herbert Stanley Price, moved to South Africa, where they separated. His mother then returned to England with her son, just as the First World War broke out. He first attended Cheltenham and then Exeter College, Oxford, where he boxed for the university. He read Classical Mods before changing to Law, obtaining a First. He was called to the Bar by Inner Temple in 1936 and took up chambers in Leeds joining the North Eastern Circuit. He became a Master of the Bench in 1963.

As with so many of his generation his career was interrupted by the Second World War, in which he served with distinction as a paymaster lieutenant in the RNVR. He spoke both French and Italian, the first serving him well when he was a liaison officer during the 1941 Dieppe raid. Two years later, the second came into play when he joined the landing force in Sicily, taking part in the landings at Salerno and Naples.

After the war he returned to the circuit, developing a mixed practice with, perhaps, a leaning towards planning law. In 1958, two years after taking silk when he joined the London chambers fraudsters for a £13m banking swindle

Trawsfyndd nuclear power station inquiry. Perhaps more importantly in legal terms, that year he appeared in the case of Woods v Martins Bank, successfully arguing, for an inexperienced investor who lost money as a result of advice by his local bank manager, that banks owed a duty of care to their clients when giving financial advice.

Those were the days when leading practitioners sat as Recorders on their circuits and in 1954 he became Recorder of Pontefract. The next year he was appointed Recorder of York. In 1958 he became Recorder of Hull and then from 1965 to 1969 the Recorder of Sheffield. He was also Deputy Chairman of North Riding Quarter Sessions for three years until 1958 and then Chairman until 1970, when the implementation of the Beeching Report abolished the office. From 1964 to 1969 he was a Judge of

Appeal in Jersey and Guernsey. He was therefore well qualified to sit at the Central Criminal Court where he was appointed a judge in 1969. That year he encountered his first high-profile case as a judge when he fined the son of the Duke of Leinster for operating what he described as a "bogus call-girl racket". He was never keen on what sociologists

He was one of a number of judges of his era regarded as too much of an independent to be appointed to the High Court

and judges call "the clang of the prison gates" - short sentences intended to shock the offender out of crime. Instead he believed, often to the chagrin of the police, in imposing probation and, in bad cases, community service orders.

He was not however afraid of sending those he saw as professional criminals to prison for lengthy periods. Sometimes, however, his sentencing even in professional cases was not seen as sufficiently harsh and in 1972 he came under fire from the Police Federation who regarded his sentences of five and four years for two Middle Eastern of Sir Harry Hylton-Foster at 5 King's as an open invitation to "skilful foreign Bench Walk, he took part in the swindlers to come to this country".

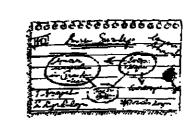


He returned to the North-East as a Peter Stanley Price, judge: born 27 ircuit judge, where he had the repution of a man who required punctuality Inner Temple 1936, Master of the circuit judge, where he had the reputation of a man who required punctuality and good advocacy. In the days when judges could be harsh on young advocates he admired those who would stand up to him. Indeed he was one of a number of his era who, despite their undoubted ability, were regarded as too much of an independent to be appointed to the High Court.

Privately he was a countryman. He planted trees at his Yorkshire home and at one time owned a wood in Lincolnshire which was home to the largest heronry in England. His other hobbies included shooting and dog breeding.

JAMES MORTON

Bench 1963; Recorder of Pontefract 1954, of York 1955, of Kingstonupon-Hull 1958, of Sheffield 1965-69; Deputy Chairman, North Riding Quarter Sessions 1955-58, 1970-71, Chairman 1958-70; QC 1956; Judge of Appeal, Jersey and Guernsey 1964-69; Solicitor-General, County Palatine of Durham 1965-69; Judge of the Chancery Court of York 1967-83; circuit judge 1969-83; married 1946 Harriet Pownall (died 1948; two sons), 1950 Margaret Hebditch (née Milkins; one daughter, one stepson); died 28 September 1998.



MILLENNIAL NOTES

JERRY HIRSHBERG

Einstein did not 'imagine the future'

ENGLAND, EAGER to reestablish a progressive identity, has commissioned the design of a stunning, vast, and vastly expensive dome from the venerable British architect Lord Rogers of Riverside to launch the new millennium. After all, the country is home to Greenwich, the global fulcrum of measured time itself and therefore a perfectly reasonable venue to mark this event in such grand fashion. The only problem is, no one can figure out exactly what to put inside it.

Nations the world over are groping for ways to grasp, express and meaningfully celebrate the passing of the last thousand years and the birth of the next. Millennial mania, that ubiquitous marker reminding us how fortunate we are to be alive during such a pivotal time, has caused us proach 2001, it is perhaps all to pause and look back at what has been, and forward towards what might be.

France, surely the planet's builder of grandiose monuments par excellence, has wisely decided that yet one more lavish architectural icon in their country might be just a tad redundant. Asia, so recently certain the next millennium would be its own, is busy rethinking its approach to the entire subject, somewhat more concerned with economically getting through the last few years of this one. And, in America, the selfproclaimed owner of the final century of this millennium and therefore to many the have metaphorically sugrightful host to usher in the next, we are doing what we do best, talking about it.

Led by a capable First Lady, a group of prominent men and women, scholars and scientists such as Stephen Hawking (who after all wrote an entire, if admittedly brief, history of time) has been invited to "honour the past and imagine the future". "Honouring the past" is fine, although we also need to be clear-eyed and critical of it as well. But I have some trouble with "imagining the future" as a serious task.

There is an unstated, widely accepted and wholly absurd assumption about the way we look at the future: that it already exists somewhere as an inevitability, and that our task is to second-guess and prepare for it. As we apnot surprising, therefore, that predicting has become a growth industry. While scholars and pundits have proclaimed the deaths of such venerable staples of life on Earth as Science, Art, and

History, only the Future appears to have, well, a future. It is the present, in all its nearly unfathomable complexity, that must actually become the central focus of our millennial musings. In this sense, we would not be in the futile business of second-guessing the future. let alone "giving gifts" or "building bridges" to it, as the

gested. Rather, we would be in the business of shaping it. George Bernard Shaw said, "If I bind the future, I bind my will. If I bind my will I strangle creation." And it is precisely creation, the human creative capacity, that is our most well-equipped and ideally suited strength to deal with the edge of the

Creative thought is popularly thought of as futuristic, when in fact it is exquisitely grounded in an intimate acquaintance with the here and now, and the unexpected connections and leaps we can make from it. Einstein and Edison did not "imagine the future". They forged it out of a creative obsession with the brute realities of their own times. So, ironically, it is by becoming committed "nowists" that we can most effectively deal with the approaching millennium.

By adding a sharp focus on the present moment to her explorations, Mrs Clinton could help bring to light all the joyous, frightening and nearly miraculous potential of the current unfolding moment we all share. For this we will need all the History, Art, Science and, above all, Imagination we

Jerry Hirshberg is the author of 'The Creative Priority: driving innovative business in the real world' President and First Lady (Penguin, £18.99)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & Deaths

BIRTHS

UHLAR: On 8 December, to Mary and David, a first son, Joseph John James.

DEATHS

GODDARD: Kitty, aged 86 on 7
December, peacefully at St
Joseph's Nursing Home, Littlehampton. Loved and loving wife
of the late Lt-Col Peter Goddard,
dear mother of Charlotte, Pete
and the late Sue, and grandmother of Johnny, Alice, Grace
and Fforrie. Funeral enquiries to
FA. Holland and Son, Terminus
Road, Littlehampton, Telephone
01903 713839.

LUNCHEONS

Newspaper Conference The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg QC, was the guest of honour and speaker at a Newspaper Conference luncheon held yesterday at the House of Lords, London SW1, Mr Greg Hurst, Chairman of the Conference, presided.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services. Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

BIRTHDAYS

former jockey, 46; Mr Walter Girven, former Chief Wonstable, Wiltshire, 60: Miss **TODAY: Miss Tracy Austin.** tennis player, 38; Mr Lionel Anouska Hempel, actress, hotelier and designer, 57; Dr Blair, dancer and entertainer, 67; Maj-Gen Sir Rupert Douglas Latto, surgeon and gynaecologist, 85; Mr Robert Brazier-Creagh, former Director of Staff Duties, War Lindsay, actor, 49; Professor Office, 89; Mr Will Carling, Sir William McCrea, astronomer, 94; Mr Alec rugby player, 33; Miss Denise Coffey, actress. Monk, former chief execudirector and writer, 62; Mr tive, Tri-Delta Corporation, 56; Sir Brian Pitman, chief Jasper Conran, fashion designer, 39; Mr Kenneth executive, Lloyds TSB Cranham, actor, 54; The Group, 67: Mr Christopher Hon Mrs Gwyneth Dun-Plummer, actor, 69; Sir woody MP, 68; Mr William Humphrey Prideaux, for-Ebbert, former chairman mer chairman, Morland and and managing director, Co, 83; Lord Renwick of Vauxball Motors, 56; Mr Clifton, former ambassador to the United States of Emerson Fittipaldi, racing driver, 52; Miss Connie America, 61; Mr George Francis, singer, 60; Mr Roy Shultz, former US Secretary of State, 78: Professor Grantham, former National Geoffrey Sims, former Secretary, Apex, 72; Air Vice-Chancellor, Sheffield Commodore Dame Felicity University, 72; Mrs Dari Hill, former Director, Taylor MP, 54; Maj-Gen Sir WRAAF, 83; Dr Philip Ledger, Principal, Royal David Thorne, Director-Scottish Academy of Music General, Commonwealth and Drama, 61; Mr Trust, 65; Mr Dick Van Christopher Mullin MP, 51; Dyke, actor, 73; General Sir Mr Clive Thornton, chair-Peter Whiteley, former man, Melton Mowbray Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Northern Europe, 78: Building Society, 69; The Right Rev John Wakeling Miss Paula Wilcox, actress, former Bishop of Southwell, 49; Mr Brian Wilson MP. 80; Miss Dionne Warwicke, Minister of State, Scottish Office, 50. singer, 57.

ANNIVERSARIES

TODAY: Births: Admiral Samuel Hood, first Viscount Hood, naval commander, 1724; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, 1821; Edvard Munch, painter, 1863; Edward G. Robinson (Emanuel Goldenburg), actor, 1893; Frank (Francis Albert) Sinatra, singer and actor, 1915; John James Osborne, playwright and actor, 1929. Deaths:

Selim II, Sultan of Turkey, 1574; Henry St John, Viscount Bolingbroke, statesman, 1751; Robert Browning. poet, 1889; Douglas Fairbanks Snr (Douglas Elton Ulman), actor, 1939; Tallulah Brockman Bankhead, actress, 1968. On this day: fleeing from the mob, Judge Jeffreys took refuge in the Tower of London, 1688; the first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Marconi, 1901; King George V held a great Coronation Durbar in Delhi, India, 1911; in Britain, conscription was introduced for men aged between 18 and 26, 1948; Christopher Cockerell patented the first hovercraft, 1955; the first London production of the musical show West Side Story was staged, 1958; near Clapham Junction, London, an express train from Bournemouth crashed into a stationary train, killing 36 people and injuring 111, 1988. Today is the Feast Day of St Corentin or Cury, St Edburga of Min-

TOMORROW: Births: Maximilien de Bethune, Duc de Sully, statesman, 1560; Sir William Hamilton, husband of Emma Hamilton, 1730; Ernst Werner von Siemens. inventor, 1816. Deaths: Maimonides (Moses ben Maimon), Jewish philosopher, 1204; Dr Samuel Johnson. lexicographer, 1784; Wassily Kandinsky, abstract painter, 1944. On this day: Sir Francis Drake left Plymouth on his voyage around the world, 1577; New Zealand was discovered by Abel Janszoon

ster, Saints Epimachus and

Clonard, St Jane Frances de

Alexander, St Finnian of

Chantel and St Vicelin.

Tasman, 1642; Port Arthur was occupied by Russian forces, 1897; in the United States, Italo Marcioni patented the first ice-cream cone. 1903: Lee De Forest demonstrated the first sound-onfilm movie, in the United States, 1923. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Aubert of Cambrai. St Eustratius of Sebastea, St Judocus or Josse, St Lucy and St Othilia

LECTURES

TODAY National Gallery: James Heard, "Gifts (2): David, The Virgin and Child with Saints and Donor", 12pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Terry Bloxham, "St George and the Dragon",

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Photographic Stills and Animated Paint".

British Museum: Paul Collins, "Connections between Egypt and Mesopotamia", 11.30am; Paul Collins, "From Pottery to Cuneiform in the Ancient Near East", 1.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: Alfred Bradley and Susan Morris, "The Imagists 1910-17", 3pm.

TOMORROW Victoria and Albert Museum: Martin Barnes, "Selecting and Displaying a History of Photography",

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Double Identities: artists and sitters", 2.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: Paul Webb, "Jessie Matthews", 3pm.

THIS WEEK not only marks actually created to give a Jew- of their own identity. The Macish explanation for a practice

Minorities must be

allowed their own oil

the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is also the beginning of Chanukah - a festival which celebrates the victory of a small minority against an oppressive majority culture.

Two thousand years ago, according to the apocryphal books of 1 and 2 Maccabees, a tyrannical Hellenistic leader called Antiochus Epiphanes demanded that the Jews offer sacrifices in pagan temples to the Greek gods. Jewish rebels, led by Judah Maccabee, viewed such acts as idolatrous. There was a three-year battle before the Maccabees defeated the Greek armies and once more Jews were able to worship in

The main feature of the

Jerusalem.

festival is the kindling of the Chanukah lights on the eight successive nights of the holiday. As a result Chanukah became known as the festival of lights, even though the ceremonial act has no more to do with the events commemorated than the Christmas tree has to the birth of Christ. Lights have always been an important part of Jewish ritual. Since their earliest history Jews have identified light with holiness and the Divine Presence and have ritualised its use in the celebration of major holidays. The kindling of lights initiates the Sabbath and major Jewish festivals such as Passover and Yom Kippur, every synagogue has a ner tamid (everlasting light); 24-hour candles are burned for the first seven days after the death of a family member and on the

anniversary of his or her death. When the ancient rabbis asked, "what is Chanukah?", their answer was concerned less with history than with legend. The story is told that when the Temple was rededicated (the word Chanukah means "re-dedication") there was only sufficient oil for the kindling of the menorah for one day. But, by a miracle, it lasted for eight days until fresh uncontaminated oil could be produced. Although the story became the explanation for the festival it is probable that it was already entrenched. The legend indicates that the

rabbis focused on the spiritual and not on the political; on the miracle of the oil and not on the military successes of the Maccabees. Unlike modern Zionists. who see in the celebration of the military prowess and political achievement of the Macabees a reflection of their own agenda, the rabbis chose to ignore the historical events which lay behind the festival.

So, how should we view Chanukah today? The answer lies in the clash between the particular and the universal; the

FAITH **REASON**

EDWARD KESSLER

The powerful should guard against the temptation to take their own cultural values and dress them up as universal

rights of a minority and the demands of a majority. When Antiochus issued his repressive edicts the Jews rebelled and, in so doing, served notice on him. and all tyrants, that there are certain unalienable rights which a people will defend, whatever the cost. Foremost amongst these is its right to maintain its own religious and declare them to be traditions. The Declaration of Human Rights states that "everyone has the right to in mind as we celebrate the 50th freedom of thought, conscience and religion". Unknowingly, the Maccabees helped establish this principle and the Festival of Lights might be aptly renamed the Festival of Rights.

Antiochus Epiphanes viewed Hellenism as the universal human culture which was not only open to all but required all to embrace it - at the expense Cambridge

cabees rejected the demand to assimilate and to give up their identity as Jews. The Mac cabean victory saved particularist Judaism and sent a signal of defiance to those universalist forces who claim the right to abolish distinctions in the name of "progress".

Such universalist forces tend to become oppressive and try to obliterate smaller cultures. As a result, Jewish resistance to universal homogenisation has been a blessing for humanity and a continuing source of encouragement for religious pluralists of all types. not just Jews. History is littered with examples of universalist cultures which have demanded that minorities disappear whether into the abysses of secularism, nationalism or into other ideologies and theologies.

The festival of Chanukah reminds us all that a universalism which denies the rights of the particular will eventually oppress people in the name of one humanity. The arrogant universalism of the Hellenism demanded that Jews give up their distinctive religious ways for the greater "good". The Maccabees warned against the simplistic but false notion that . only if we are all citizens of one faith will there truly be one humanity. By defeating Antiochus and by surviving against the odds since then, Jews continue to oppose whatever philosophy, religion or economic system claims the right to abolish all distinctions.

There is a lesson for all of us here. Across the globe minorities today have been informed that there is no future for them. But it is all too easy to dress up the values of a dominant culture universal. The leaders of the Western world should bear this anniversary of that Universal Declaration. It is not that there are no universal truths; only that we should demonstrate humility rather than prejudice in our attempt to discern them.

Edward Kessler is Director of the Centre for Jewish-Christian Relations at

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

TODAY: Prince Edward, Patron, attends the Royal Exchange Theatre Company's Royal Gala Opening followed by a performance of Hindle Wakes at the Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square. Manchester. TOMORROW: The Duke of Kent, President, the Royal Air Force

TOMORROW: Prince

Karim, the Aga Khan, 62;

Director General, CBL, 75;

Mr Howard Brenton, play-

wright, 56; General Arnold

Brown, former leader, Salva-

tion Army, 85; Lord Bullock,

historian, 84; Mr Jim David-

son, comedian, 44; Sir Brian

Fall, Principal, Lady Mar-

garet Hall, Oxford, former

Federation, 61; Mr John

ambassador to the Russian

Francombe, broadcaster and

Sir Terence Beckett, former

Benevolent Fund, attends a Carol Service at St Clement Danes Church, London WC2. Princess Alexandra attends the Crisis Carol Service at Southwark Cathedral,

London SE1.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

TODAY: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battation Cold-

stream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am. TO-MORROW: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 10am.

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.: .: ...

She talks to rainbows

Phil Spector built a Wall of Sound around her, then imprisoned her behind real gates and barbed wire. Game over? Not likely.

Meet Ronnie Spector, pop's finest moment. By Glyn Brown

wholly unaffected. Ronnie Spector has the double bind of both being a mythic icon and having lived with one of strangest men in the business. She was love object, the protégée, and later the soner, of the genius Phil Spector, and rs is the voice you hear on Sixties teen thems such as "Be My Baby", "Walking the Rain", and "Baby, I Love You" - a rato of raw adolescent devotion, a mixe of innocence, pathos and desire.

The then Veronica Bennett was 17, ssed in get-up that sent men crazy - but athtakingly unworldly. She'll tell you she s a virgin, that the numbers written for by Phil express the depth of his love. t according to Billy Joel, one of the many sicians who idolise her they were pure c and if you took a Ronettes record to party, you were bound to get laid. onnie's voice," he has said, "sounds nost lubricated. It's got a smell to it, like 'eat and garlic."

Ronnie and Phil, of course, got married; er years of trauma, she left him. Neither s done anything of particular note since, ugh Ronnie's made stabs at comebacks. e's just beginning another one, helped by Joey Ramone and signed to Oasis's el, Creation.

But when you talk to her, it's pretty clear t Phil's still running around in her head. erdy but visionary tyrant.

Ronnie's 55 now, with a Marlboro-deeped voice, like Lennie the Lion's. She's ed out from the gawky kid who got called nny Yellow Horse at school because of colouring (her father was Irish, her ther half-black, half-Cherokee), and tendency to kick like a pony. She's still stically beautiful - perhaps, in a way, re so - and, boy, can she talk. The scene Russian tea room in Camden.

'People say I was created by Phil. Well, t of all..." Wags finger, then looks vn. "First of all, I can't get this sugar out, 1 you get it? OK..." Taps out seven tabs sweet 'n' Low. "What attracted Phil was at we already had. We had our look, beise me and the Ronettes were born 'erent-looking. And he didn't teach me v to sing. If anyone guided me, it was inkie Lymon. I'd come home from iool and holler 'Why Do Fools Fall In ve?" over and over."

Phil got a ready-to-go package, right vn to the styling, which Ronnie took from girls of her Spanish Harlem neighurbood: tight dresses with side splits, ls, teased beehives, and a gallon of eveer. Hip-swingin', finger-clickin', total st Side Story - quite something when It probably made him more insecure." er girl groups, such as The Shirelles,

ou can't be a part of rock'n' an immediate frisson between the proroll history and come out ducer and the singer, and it developed at Phil's Gold Star studios in LA, where the legendary Wall of Sound was being constructed around the likes of Tina Turner. the Righteous Brothers and the Crystals.

Phil built the sound deep - six guitarists, three pianos, a dozen strings, a room of backing singers - but had such Mekon-like control, he was able to detect faulty tuning on the 10th violin mid-track. "And that turned me on so much, I'm telling you." Ronnie's huge eyes half close. "I wanted him so badly. A man's brain – that's so exciting for women. Phil had the diction, he had all the big words, and he had a cute tush, too. I remember telling Darlene



'Phil had the diction. He had all the big words. I thought he was adorable'

Love, Isn't he cute? She said, 'You think that's cute?' I thought he was adorable." Phil was convinced of his ugliness. "By

the time he was 23, and we were married, he had a toupee. Every night, he would go to the bathroom and use an acetone solvent to get the glue off his head. You could smell it all the way to the bedroom. But he'd turn off the light, come out of the bathroom with a little hat on, then take it off when he got in bed. It was so unnecessary. Whereas I had so much hair." A touch of smugness here. "He was always on a diet, too. His father was heavy and bald, and he didn't want to be anything like his father. It was sad in a way - I could eat anything, I lived on cheeseburgers, and there was the cook making low-calorie food for Phil." Spector Snr had killed himself when Phil was 17: "I don't know if anyone knows that.

Don't feel sorry for Phil. At 19, he'd writ-The Ronettes (the other two were her Once he'd picked Ronnie and married her, ter Estelle and cousin Nedra) had a he fied her securely. The couple had a 23ord deal, with the lacklustre Colpix, room mansion in Beverly Hills. "On the first en they called up Spector - at 21, a prod- day of my honeymoon, I woke up to hear Ronnie Spector's new EP will be released and a self-made millionaire. There was all this banging. I looked out the window, on 18 January

saw these construction workers. I thought they were making a basketball pitch." Instead, barbed wire-topped walls went up. The doors were locked, and Ronnie didn't get a key. Deeply possessive, Phil forbade his wife from touring with The Beatles, then from touring anywhere, and then from going out at all.

As pacification, he got her to record numbers that would have taken her to new heights - had they been released. "Days and months of work, and the songs never appeared. I blamed myself. I did my best, but I thought it must be me." Around this time, The Beach Boys' Brian Wilson wrote the mellifluous "Don't Worry, Baby" for Ronnie. She never heard about it. So the Ronettes faded, stifled in their prime.

Things worsened when, in 1966, Ike and Tina Turner's phenomenal "River Deep, Mountain High" inexplicably stiffed in the States. It was Gold Star's last recording. At 26, Phil went into retirement. He shuttered the windows, plunging the house into shadow, watched Citizen Kane repeatedly, and roared his head off at Ronnie - who took refuge in alcohol, and painting by numbers. "A lot of people say I'm like Tina Turner or Cher, but I'm nothing like them," she tells me. "Ike let Tina perform. He worked her too hard, but she could sing. And Sonny, he was the brain behind Cher. Maybe Phil just loved me too much."

In 1972, after years of sanatoriums and Al-Anon meetings, Ronnie escaped - running through the electric gates barefoot one day while her mum kept Phil talking. That easy. Interminable litigation followed, first the divorce, and continuing lawsuits over royalties. ("He won't give up. It's contact with me.") The Seventies saw Ronnie taken up by a number of musicians with respect for her voice and status, but nothing paid off. She worked with Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes, then Billy Joel wrote the storming "Say Goodbye to Hollywood" for her, which she recorded with Springsteen's E Street Band. There was a pseudo-punk album, Siren, then a single with Eddie Money and an album, Unfinished Business, that went nowhere.

She met her second husband, Jonathan Greenfield, in the mid-Eighties, a jovial bear of a man who's now her manager. It was he who heard The Ramones' "She Talks To Rainbows", and suggested Ronnie meet Joey. Joey heard her sing, told her, "You're so now," and fixed up a deal with Creation. On a new four-track EP, Ronnie covers "Rainbows" and finally gets a shot at "Don't Worry, Baby". Her voice is almost what it was, though the years do show, but she claims: "I'm ready to take on the world.

"Sometimes, even now, I think Phil might be in the audience, watching me. You never forget that first love, though I wish re still flaunting big silly party dresses. 🛘 ten "There is a Rose in Spanish Harlem". 🔝 I could. At Gold Star, when I'd watch him telling the guitars what to do, I'd think, he is so cool And I still think that."



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GETS YOU CLOSER QUICKER.

Flair and folly from three wise men

THE START is great: "Everything Must Go", the typically apocalyptic statement of intent with which Manic Street Preachers signposted their first album as a three-piece and still, by some distance, the best thing they've ever recorded. Five cinema-sized screens hang across the back of the stage. The middle three show giddying footage of blossoms being whisked off a tree by a spring breeze; the other two have close-ups of the band which, though playing live, have the soft-focus look of a meticulously edited concert film.

with an urgency always lacking in the Bryan Adams-ish record

delivered before a backdrop of fox-hunters intercut with mounted police charging miners, all punctuated by fifthform pencil-case slogans such as "Hope Lies In The Proles" and "When Freedom Exists There Will Be No State". While both statements are patent nonsense – ask a Somali – this is what the Manics have always excelled at, on and off record: making the grand and occasionally absurd statement with desperate conviction, defying The ending isn't bad, either: any sort of reasoned disagree-

"A Design For Life", suffused

POP MANIC STREET **PREACHERS** SHEFFIELD ARENA

ment. This is, of course, a decent definition of rock'n'roll. As for the middle ... as might be expected, most of the set is taken up with the Manics' new album, This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours, almost certainly the first rock record ever to be titled with a quote from Aneurin Bevan. It also marks the first time the Manics have forsaken righteous, full-steam-aheadand-damn-the-torpedoes cer- ics have progressed from pious

fectly understandable course, especially for three abnormally intelligent people who've weathered a saga as incredible as the Manics' story, but the evidence suggests, not for the first time, that there's an unbridgeable gap between their ambitions and their abilities. The musical shift that has accompanied their - no other word, sorry - maturing world view has only been from tinny, sweaty punk pastiches to souped-up but dreary balladry.

As live performers, the Man-

tainty, and attempted subtlety and reflection. This is a per-Dean Bradfield is a passable rock singer, but his voice is wearyingly one-dimensional, and Nicky Wire's unarguably extraordinary charisma doesn't atone for the fact that his bass frequently parts company with the song. The coffee mugs for sale on the merchandise stall bear another Bevan quote: "I read the newspapers avidly, it is my only form of continuous fiction". Fair enough, but from this seat the Manics remain the most frustrating band in exis-

ANDREW MUELLER

THE WEEK IN RADIO

ROBERT HANKS

Thursday) started with a montage of cosy moments plucked from the ether: Laurie McMillan welcoming the listener to Radio 4, The Archers' theme tune, John Humphrys ushering in a weather report, Terry Wogan being jolly, Desert Island Discs, Garry Richardson doing the sports news, Sailing By, The Shipping Forecost... A mix as rosily bland and evocative as warm beer, cricket on the village green and old ladies cycling home from church.

RADIO IS very comforting.

War Radio (Radio 4.

The point about War Radio, however, was that the same insidious, relaxant qualities that make Radio 4 so cuddly can also make radio a uniquely poisonous medium. In Rwanda and Bosnia, propaganda

stations pumping out contempt and distortions all day, every day, helped to create a climate of fear and violence in which ordinary people could commit some of the most ghastly crimes of the last half-century. Misha Glenny -

something of a stranger to the airwaves these days, more's the pity - described his own experiences of hate radio in former Yugoslavia, and talked to some of the listeners. A Bosnian Muslim woman explained how the various stations, which had all broadcast in Serbo-Croat, suddenly began to create their own languages, the Muslims interpolating Turkish words, the Croats finding a new vocabulary from goodness knows where. The effect, over time, was to dislocate communities, driving



wedges of non-If it had been left to Glenny to explain the process, the listener's credulity might have been strained; he has an unfortunate tendency to paint swirling shapes in Day-glo colours, a kind of art nouveau approach to broadcasting. But he had enough witnesses backing him to show that in this case, at least, what looked so lurid was pure photorealism; and while his

descriptions were overblown, his moral response was flawlessly measured. After this, I will treat my radio with a little more respect and scepticism.

This was broadcast in aid

of the 50th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, with reference to Article 19, about freedom of speech, A more general approach to the declaration was taken in A Better World? (Radio 4, Tuesday), in which John Sweeney tried to assess what difference it has made to the world. Rather like Glenny, Sweeney suffers from a tendency to wax indignant, as if he thinks the listener's own moral responses aren't going to be sufficient, or is worried that he may come across as the torturers' friend. He also

got a little too wrapped up in the particular – too much of the programme was dedicated to the case of General Pinochet, as if we needed keeping up to speed on this one. Still, it was worth it to hear Alan Clark explain his reasons for wanting to send the general back to Chile; whereas, say, Hitler and Saddam have committed broad crimes against humanity, Pinochet was selective in his torture and killing of dissidents. Helen Bamber, who accompanied troops into Belsen and is now director of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, described the declaration as her bible. Meanwhile, Clark is trying to count the angels dancing on a pin: fun for him, maybe, but you have to admit it lacks ethical force.

EXIT POLL

THE EXHIBITION

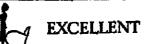
DUMBPOP

JERWOOD SPACE, UNION STREET LONDON

you get. I really liked [Den Gays'] ent - it's so real and bright. This

you think: 'oh I can do that'. I will

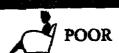
go home and get some gloss pair. It's easy, in a sense, not to come up with the ideas, but to copy it."



4 GOOD



CRITICAL VIEW



DEADLY

OVERVIEW

THE FILM THE MASK OF ZORRO



Anthony Hopkins's elderly Zorro instructs Antonio Banderas's bandit in the etiquette of swordplay and personal hygiene in Martin Campbell's swashbuckler.

'This lavish rendering is certainly a crowdpleaser, and positively revels in its mappie pick'n'mix composition. Indeed, the sense of déjà vu will be overpowering to anyone who has seen an action adventure movie in the past 20 years," warned Anthony Quinn. "An entirely honourable attempt at resurrecting a defunct hero," noted The Express.

"Overlong, and laden with cliché. The Mask of Zorro still conspires to get away with it," conceded The Guardian, "It has restored my faith in remakes. Banderas sends himself up just enough, Zeta-Jones is a gorgeous Medcan rose and Hopkins pulls off his trick of imbuing comic-book schlock with oddly moving depth," cried The Spectator.

Despite being half an hour too long and packed with cliches, Campbell's colourful picture knows how to stage a spectacle and keeps Zorro's glossy reputation intact.

OUR VIEW

The Mask of Zorro is on general release. certificate PG. 137 minutes

ON VIEW



Having called a halt in 1996 after the Manchester bombing, Helena Kaut-Howson's staging of Stanley Houghton's 1912 efurbished Royal Exchange.

[The production is] all the more fitting because the play itself turns on a spirited refusal to be intimidated. The warmth and conviction of the company are terrific, with a lanky, amusingly sheepish Pearce Quigley timing the naïveties and circumspect sincerities of the toff son in a surprising comic fashion," reported Paul Taylor.

"Hindle Wake's heart beats strongly, and . while it is unlikely to win the theatre many new friends, it will please many old ones, wrote the Daily Mail. "Sue Johnston makes Mrs Jeffcote a highly entertaining snob and Claire Rushbrook's Fanny is winningly spirited. It is a joy to get back to this intimate theatre," said The Daily Telegraph.

and kitsch," saidTime Out, while the Mail On

Sunday pronounced: "It's sensible to put

in work by contemporaries. What di-

minishes them is the proximity of

Gibbons; where they produce con-

seem on the verge of opening their

ventional sculptures of birds, his

eyes and taking flight."

The themes in Hindle Wakes prove particularly resonant in the light of the IRA bombing and they are powerfully conveyed by the cast. A triumphant start for the revamped Royal Exchange.

Elegant yet eerie, baroque but

bizarrely post-modern. Gib-

dinarily up-to-date when

displayed out of their

churches, castles and

usual context of

stately homes.

bons's carvings seem extraor-

in a performance that bordered

on self-parody, Duran Duran re-

realed themselves to have a

sense of humour as well

as clutch of Eight-

ies anthems that

pinstriped suit.

have stood the test

Exchange until 9 January, For bookings and enquiries call 0161-833 9833

Grinling Gibbons and

is at the V&A. London

SW7 until 24 January

Duran Duran will per-

form conight at

21 December:

Belfast Waterfront

Hali. The tour ends

at Wembley Arena on

For enquiries call

0171-938 8500.

the Art of Carving

Hindle Wakes is at the Manchester Royal

SYRNE 5, computer programmer, London It has immediate

isabella Ansar

K's less

30, graphic artist.

strained: Johns of the sound of



aven't really een anything like them. I think you houldn't have to know about art to

njoy it. This is about niceness and eccessibility - it's less pre it just la what it la. It's abo harmony. The exhibition is similar to the one at the ICA. I like both of



like the way it's been hung. It eyes. It is very pap - dumb pop describes it quite well. But it's just not really my cup of tea."

THE PLAY HINDLE WAKES



THE GIG DURAN DURAN

THE TV PROGRAMME THE BEAT ROUTE

THE EXHIBITION GRINLING GIBBONS The 17th-century wood carver, best known for his work in St Paul's Cathedral, is shown alongside a selection of his contemporaries in an

Singer Simon Le Bon and

keyboardist Nick Rhodes

gia and embark on a na-

version of their band,

Musician and presenter

lools Holland goes to

Havana and jams with

Gonzales in the latest edi-

piano legend Ruben

tion of his new BBC2

travel show.

cash in on Eighties nostal-

tional tour with a depleted

"You'll see an art that can claim the word's full range of meaning: craft and bizarrerie and inquisitiveness," exclaimed Tom Lubbock, adding: "He's weird and sensuous and a little disturbing. He might have been made for today." "These life-like yet wooden xhibition at the V&A. arrangements seem both macabre

'The old camp fluency gradually returned until Le Bon was prancing around doing that turn-around-and-look-surprised-to-see-theaudience-over-your-shoulder thing with aplomb. And the music? So beautifully modern," observed Steven Poole. The Guardian

noted that "Le Bon no longer invites the

"Unusually for Jools Holland it was the

sessions are inconsistent in presentation

bly be cautiously encouraged within the

dialogue was pretty woeful." "The pro-

context of travel shows, The Beat Route's

adding: "while spontaneity... should proba-

and quality," remarked Peter Conchie,

nickname Le Blob and radiates laddish ennui

music which let him down. His on-the-road

(though) Save A Prayer's cry of immortality seems more like the glorious wallow of a mid-life crisis." "While Duran Duran defined a vacuous phase in pop's development," pronounced The Times, "their emphasis on instantly recognisable choruses has left them with a surprisingly resilient legacy to plunder as a nostalgia act."

gramme involved him driving round reciting facts which he had presumably read in his guidebook the night before. A lecture on the local architecture fell flat when he mispronounced the words 'pilaster' and 'caryatid'," pointed out The Express. "That Jools Holland has a nice life, doesn't he?" remarked The Guardian.

Holland's cool, charming studio persona is seemingly lost when he steps out of his genre and his postcode, Cast off the rucksack and flip-flops and bring back the

Jools Holland continues Beat Route next Thursday at 8.00pm, BBC2

ARTS DIARY

DAVID LISTER

CHARLES SAATCHI is, as we should all have realised by now, the contemporary art collector sans pareil. And while his Britpack fetched record prices at Christie's he was preparing his stable of "new neurotic realists", as he is calling them. But it seems the young painters are not alone in being twitchy. Their patron may be a major neurotic himself, to judge from a lecture delivered by

his ex-wife. Doris Saatchi, an art expert of repute herself, delivered one of the National Art Collections **Fund Fantasy Art Collecting** lectures (try saying that when you're sober). I was intrigued by her opening. She said: Collecting is a neurotic activity. It's about control. It's as if by bringing beautiful things to you. you can somehow create a world where nothing bad ever happens. It's about control," No names, no pack drill, of course. So we can only speculate as to which of our major contemporary collectors this

alleged control freak is. Mrs Saatchi was also not backward in coming forward about the Turner Prize, the winner of which tends to be from the Charles Saatchi collection when there is an "r" in the month. Indeed. Charles Saatchi awarded the prize a couple of years ago. His ex-wife began in mouth-watering style: "I am probably the wrong person to ask, but..." then went on: "I'm not much in favour of prizes for artists; I think you might as well give a prize to the artist who made the most paintings in any one year. It's not a horse race. Initially the Turner Prize did a great deal to stimulate public interest in contemporary art. The fact is that it has now become about the size of the prize, and yet one more burden on a genuine appreciation of contemporary art, placed by the market and market prices, as opposed to

perar prisi

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AS THE lottery-assisted art buildings begin to open, it would be interesting to know what the punters really think of them. After two visits to the impressive-looking new Sadler's Wells, I do wonder whether architects ever sit in the seats in the buildings that they design.

The seats in the new theatre are not over-comfortable, they have insufficient room for people to squeeze past without having to shed a few pounds, and their arm rests do not stretch to the elbow. Why? I would welcome readers' comments. They will be treated with absolute discretion , and printed.

A right old song and dance

Welcome to a feisty, all-polka-dancing production of Smetana's Bartered Bride. But has it put a spring into their steps at the Royal Opera? By Edward Seckerson

clearly it's going to take more than tion. They're raising a barn down in deepest Bohemia. Too bad they

couldn't raise a laugh or two. We've seen Alison Chitty's well scrubbed pine before. We've seen her costumes, too, on souvenir dolls the world over. At first glance of the opening tableau - everyday countryfolk awakening to greet yet another corn-coloured dawn - you might imagine you've mistakenly dropped in on the National Theatre's Oklahoma! If only. A closer look at the costumes puts you right. But this is Toy Story Bohemia, all yellow and

LIFE MAY be one big barn dance, but green (is it ever?) and cut-out flora ence is fleetingly evident in the Susan Stromans of this world tell stoand fauna atop picket-fence pickets. a polka or two to put the smile back. It's as pretty as a picture, for the secinto the Royal Opera. Francesca ond or two it takes your eyes to Zambello's new production of adjust to the bright light and is everyone's business but anyone's Smetana's perennially charming squeaky-clean colours, but very own is something she sets up most hobbyhorses). The rest was thigh-The Bartered Bride is not the soon you're thinking "not again". promisingly in the first scene seasonal tonic we all anticipated. Isn't it something of a betrayal. Jenik and Marenka have plainly Riverdance after the drought. You can put on a happy face, but even patronising to go on treating grown used to conducting their afBut take heart. Bernard Hail you cannot disguise a lazy disposiSmetana's beautiful and really fairs in the full glare of nosy neighis still with us, and you know, for rather wistful piece as though it were theatre for the under-fives?

Then again, such visual irritations (and this much yellow and green can have you reaching for the antihistamines) are only exacerbated by the absence of a tangible energy, rigour. and wit in the staging. Can this re-ally be the work of Francesca Zambello, whose sharp thinking and instinctive stagecraft so lately enthralled us in pieces as disparate as Britten's Paul Bunyon and Mus-Royal Opera and ENO? Her pres- out of even the club-footed. The

blocking of that opening tableau, freeze-dried for our delectation. And the sense in which village life bours - but thereafter abandons.

Meanwhile, if we could see them dance the polka, maybe that would chase all our troubles away. Again, wishful thinking. Zambello's choreographer, Denni Savers, would seem to have gone AWOL from this production. It's that which finally sinks it. The dance is important, the dance is integral here. It's the essence of Bohemian bonhomie. But tell that to the motley Royal Opera Chorus. It's not fancy footwork, but a little sorgsky's Boris Godunov for the imagination that makes dancers

ries, make pictures, find character in every move. Folk dancing is stily, but not this silly. My heart sank when I saw the rakes (they rode them like slapping, foot-stomping disarray.

But take heart. Bernard Haitink is still with us, and you know, from the time he takes over that reflective moment just prior to the overture's effervescent coda, just how much he loves this piece. All right, so he's less of a cheerleader than some, so he doesn't exactly kick up his heels in the dance numbers. But the charm, the affection, the sincerity - to use that unfashionable word - is winning. And he has a cast who share his sentiments. As Jenik and Marenka, we've two vocally captivating Scandinavians. Jorma Silvasti's lusty tenor has beefy peasant stock written all over it, more



Soile Isokoski and Jorma Silvasti

Laurie Lewis

than a match for Soile Isokoski's feistily independent Marenka. Hers is a deceptive voice, yielding more colour than its apparent narrowness might suggest. There's heart and musicianship behind it. Franz Hawlata has his work cut out as moral for the production team? Kecal, the unscrupulous marriage-

broker (shifty descents to basso profundo), and Ian Bostridge's sweet-voiced Vasek is blissfully at odds with his sales pitch: a velvetclad stork of a lad with as many buttons and bows as he lacks words. A Booking: 0171-863 8000

Isn't my little boy divine?

THEATRE JESUS, MY BOY

APOLLO THEATRE LONDON

TOM CONTI - don't you just adore him? Well, you might, if you didn't feel that all the available kneeling space at that particular shrine had been monopolised by Mr Conti. Consider those brown, liquid, sleepily self-loving orbs of his. If eyes could masturbate in a slow, savouring-each-second sort of way, it would surely look something like this. Usually, when he is in a

play, you can rid yourself of the guilt of voyeurism by directing your attention on to some other member of the cast. That's not an option, though, with Jesus, my boy - a solo veh-icle, written by John Dowie, in which, with a grizzled beard, a leather carpenter's aprop and a lot of Semitic shrugging. Conti plays Jesus's foster-dad.

Call me an old softie, corrupted by the Christmas spirit, but I didn't loathe every one trousered lad makes his stage debut at this time of year, Joseph is also an archetype of the tragicomic cuckold, cast in the position of unwitting gooseberry while the Holy Spirit has its (un) wicked way with the Virgin Mary.



provoking cosmic alternative -

the Virgin delivered not of the

Messiah but of female triplets

who spend their lives in

The proceedings never

begin to match the treatment

of Joseph's predicament you

find in the medieval mystery

plays or, say in Auden's brilliant

Christmas oratorio, For the

Time Being, where the char-

acter's plight mirrors the

poet's own confused feelings of

betrayal by his lover, Chester

Moscow.

Tom Conti in Jesus, My Boy

On a set that looks like the background to some Wonders of Woodwork CD-rom, Conti never manages to get especially agitated about any of this. When Mary informs him of the of the 70 unbroken minutes of paternity, he shrugs and surthe show. Apart from being the mises that she's thinking this role in which many a short- is "an old trick but it might work". And, after a birth in which he's a klutzy hands-on participant, he punctures the potential sanctimenty by admitting, palms raised heavenward: "To tell you the truth, I was hoping for a little girl" Now there's a thought- Kallman But, even in the lat- yesterday's paper

hitching a shameless lift on the Christian story, there are moments that disconcert with their direct emotional power. True, I had to look away when Conti's Joseph, describing the crucifizion, affected to cover his stricken face. And the

to sense that this piece is

gorge duly rose at his cutesy farewell: not just "Shalom" but "Shalom. Bye-bye". There were times, too, when you reckoned that outright blasphemy ("Just remember three things, my boy. Don't get mixed up with cults. Don't get nailed down by work. And make a clean exit, don't go in for Sinatra-style comebacks.") would show the subject more respect than maudlin jokiness. But I confess that I was

moved and held by Joseph's distress when he finds the boy Jesus in the temple, irritatedly slaps him, and is met with the desolating response: "Did you not know that I am in the house of my Father?" And it's Nazareth pettishly pining for an instance of rare largemindedness in the script that Joseph at one point sympathetically remembers another dad whom God put in an awkward spot. After all, there's a parallel show to this that could be called "Judas, my boy".

> A version of this review appeared in later editions of

PAUL TAYLOR

School for scandal

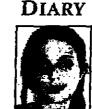
IN MANHATTAN, private schools are just like Masonic lodges. Their student initiates understand the subtle groupings and sub-groupings of their young lifeworld. They have an unspoken intelligence about New York's social élite.

Look closely, though, and the lodges' traces are everywhere: famous graduates of the wealthiest schools include Gwyneth Paltrow, the Beastle Boys, Flona Apple and Spike Lee. The code is broken in This

is Our Youth, a smart, Mike

Leigh-lite play about stoned teens on the Upper West Side, set in 1982. "My parents pay for this apartment," says the scene's dealer, declaring his independence. "They don't throw me out of it? Pretty screw-ups diss each other, confess and smoke up on their parents' dime. The theatre, packed with milkyskinned, Gap-clad Upper West Side couples in their mid-30s, chortle as teens spill cocaine on the floor and exchange apercus. "We went to schools that thought learning

to spell would cripple us." The theatre audience's magazines also document these schools. New York magazine reports tales of "shook" (slutty) teenagers of uptown provenance, and the twentysomething PR divas who made their earliest contacts NEW YORK



ALISSA QUART

in exclusive grade schools. The New York Observer, the city's weekly newspaper most likely to appeal to parents who send their kids to private schools, even features a column on such institutions and their culture.

Observer readers and

This Is Our Youth audiences are titillated by reflections of their ordinarily unspoken privilege. Happily for them, there may be more plays mirroring the private-school milieu, given the upsurge of the young theatre movement since the musical Rent. Amy Tepper, an Upper East Sider and 26-year-old Dalton School grad, produced John Leguziamo's Freak and the theatrical version of Trainspotting. Perhaps there are young theatre producers gearing

up with plays about Dalton.

While upper-middle-class

selves are voyeuristic about the lives of those poorer and cooler than they are. It is pitch-perfect that This is Our Youth's Dennis boasts of leaving the Upper West Side to play basketball in Harlem. He is like the many privateschool kids who spend their free time in impoverished Flatbush doing drugs and drinking malt liquor. Dennis's girlfriend has given him her own "pseudo-

bit voyeuristic about their

kids' lives, the kids them-

lesbian sculpture of two girls kissing", exemplifying an other private-schooler ambition - to be, or seem to be sex-positive and drug-omniscient. The look in the Eighties was tarty sophistication: the play's one girl wears high-heeled boots, a beaded sweater and a stretchy miniskirt. Now, her skinny private. school equivalent is wearing Jordache designer jeans that were in fact produced in 1982 a Seventies punk Tshirt butterfly barrettes and a Pixie Yates sweater.

But then again, the view ers may not equate the abusive, moneyed families of the play with the ways of their own cushion-strewn nests. Perhaps the play's unhappy progeny merely con. jure those "poor dope fiends" whom their kids mention obliquely over brunches at adult New Yorkers may be a the Barney Greengrass deli

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A felt life, rough or smooth

How do you join Bret Easton Ellis's party list? Toby Young tries a cute meet in Manhattan

Easton Ellis's apartment building in New York, I felt a wave of apprehension. What if I didn't like him? Norse still, what if I didn't like his new novel? I didn't want to be ejectad from his annual Christmas party. which I've been gatecrashing for the past three years. Yet precisely that ate befell a friend of mine who wrote an unfavourable profile of him in an

American magazine. These are the kind of dilemmas which confront aspiring literary journalists in New York these days. Glamorama, which is published by Picador early in January (£16.99), is Bret Easton Ellis's fifth novel, set in the New York fashion world. He has described it as "the big book", a follow-up to American Psycho, published in 1991.

And it is a big book, at least in event terms. His American publishers, Knopf, are greeting its arrival with the kind of bells and whistles they reserve for their most highly-prized writers. In addition to an 11-city author tour, there will be a national advertising campaign, advertising on websites - even a 3-D poster. The publication of Glamoroma will mark the beginning of Bret Easton Ellis's comeback tour as the bad boy of American fiction.

Unpromisingly, the name of his apartment complex in the East Village is the American Felt Building. Easton Ellis isn't supposed to have felt anything in his life. If his reputation is to be believed, the 34-year-old author embodies the emotional flatness of Generation X. He was banned from the opening of Euro Disney,

for Chrissakes When I set foot in his apartment, things went from bad to worse. The only times I had been there previously, it had been dark, crowded and littered with empty bottles. Perfect. But on this occasion it was clean and airy with a beautiful wooden floor

s I approached Bret stretching from the entrance to the farthest wall and a modern, openplan kitchen. "Would you like any-thing to drink?" I was asked by the polite young man who took my coat. 'I can offer you a Diet Coke."

Could this be the the creator of Patrick Bateman, the yuppie serial killer of American Psycho? Could this be the author who prompted the Los Angeles chapter of the National Organisation of Women to boycott all books published by Random House?

Admittedly, he was dressed from head-to-toe in black, but in all other respects he confounded expectations. There were no signs of the "substance abuse" he has confessed to. On the contrary, he was fresh-faced and healthy-looking, hardly the "young Richard Nixon" or the "debauched cherub" of other descriptions. His sleeves were rolled-up to the elbow. Yet, far from revealing track-marks, they exposed his impressively muscular forearms. He looked like a man who spends more time in the gym than in seedy after-hours clubs.

He began by telling me a story about his last trip to London. He was there to promote a TV documentary and agreed to be interviewed at the ICA by Will Self. However, at the last minute the ICA pulled a switcheroo and the bestselling writer of Great Apes was replaced by Elizabeth Wurtzel, the notoriously self-involved author of Prozac Nation.

"She thought she was being interviewed," he laughed. "I think she mentioned her book 20 times in the course of asking me questions."

But why was she asked to do it? "Apparently," he explained, "Will Self fell ill." Then, to indicate what he thought the real reason was for

I quickly made a note. "Airthat the man sitting opposite me was indeed Bret Easton Ellis.

As the interview progressed it



BRET EASTON ELLIS: A BIOGRAPHY

Bret Easton Ellis was born in Los Angeles in 1964, the son of a real-estate salesman. He published his first book, Less Than Zero, aged 21 while still a student at Bennington College. It was instantly acclaimed as the voice of a generation. His follow-up. Rules

catapulted him to literary stardom and still sells 25,000 copies a year worldwide. The informers (1994), was less a novel than a col-

of Attraction (1987), was less successful but considered a disappointment. Glamoroma, his third novel, American Psycho (1991), his fifth novel, will be published in January. Less Than Zero was made into a film in 1987 and a film of American Psycho (in which Leonardo diCaprio bas reputedly shown an lection of short stories and was generally interest) goes into production in March 1999.

became clear that, far from being an immoralist, he thinks of himself as a very moral writer. Perhaps that explained why he looked so cleancut. He described American Psycho as a "feminist text" in that it con-"If you're going to write a book tained "a complete critique of male culture" and he professed to be

perplexed by the reaction to it. "That the book was read so literally caused me to despair," he said. "I think I lost my innocence."

Glamorama, too, contains many Self's absence, he repeated the violent episodes, and Patrick Batewords "fell ill", this time placing a man makes a brief cameo appearmassive set of quotes around them. ance. The action switches between New York, Paris and London, as the quotes!" There could be no doubt protaganist screws and snorts his way through the jet set, becoming involved in a sinister terrorist plot. One scene, in which a Boeing 747 portray them in their true colours, he

explodes in mid-air above Paris. is every bit as gruesome as anything in American Psycho. The title page even quotes Hitler. Wasn't Ellis guilty of courting the very reaction he claims to be disappointed by?

about violence," he explained, "it seems logical that it should contain violence. În my so-called real life I'm much more squeamish. I wince when I see violence on screen."

But why did he have to eroticise violence? "I don't necessarily feel that I do in this book," he protested. "Maybe when you're writing about models who populate his new novel. violence it's difficult not to.

Logically, one can see Ellis's point. He has chosen as his satirical target rich American men and, in order to

has them inflict terrible atrocities on women. The novelist Susanna Moore. a friend of Ellis's, sees nothing wrong in this and taught American Psycho at a seminar at Yale. "I think it's very funny," she told one magazine, "It has a meanness that was misunderstood. I saw the book as being polemical, outraged, pissed off."

Yet it's hard to dismiss the susnicion that Ellis harbours a deep resentment towards women. In last October's Vanity Fair, the critic James Wolcott quoted hun as having an "angry feeling" about the The 'angry feeling' Ellis nurses about models," he wrote, "reflects a deeper aversion to women, who are

pretty much chopped liver in his

fictional universe.

intentions at face value, his new, cleaned-up image seems of a piece with his high-minded moral agenda. He does not so much want to re-establish himself as the poster boy for violent fiction as re-position himself as a satirist of the MTV generation. It remains to be seen whether the critics will be convinced

But if you accept his professed

A few days after interviewing him I received an invitation to his Christmas party. Had he been charmed by me or was it just a bribe to get me to write a favourable piece? My original dilemma became more acute. Then I noticed the date. Thank God. I would be back in London by then. My integrity was not going to be tested after all.

COVER STORIES IN NEW YORK



WITH HER so-called friend Monica Lewinsky hunkered down with Andrew Morton, Linda Tripp, the woman who ensnared the hapless intern, is now hoping to publish her side of the story. Lucianne Goldberg, the New York agent who suggested Tripp tape Lewinsky, is not in the running – an appearance before a Maryland grand jury makes "a professional relationship" impossible. Alas, Tripp is unable to return to her job at the Pentagon and is in need of a little spending money. Larry King, with whom she was spotted dining in Washington, says that it's important for her to "explore her economic options". Which may be few. For, if Lewinsky is disliked, Tripp is loathed.

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IF MONICA is disappointed with her "paltry" \$600,000, which she is presumably splitting with Morton, she will be infuriated to know that a mere New York cop has just pocketed a few dollars short of a million bucks for Blue Blood. The novel is written under the pen name of Marcus Laffey, and it started life as a column for the New *Yorker* – one of Tina Brown's ideas to survive her departure. Penguin bought at an auction in which bidding started at \$350,000. Laffey. however, has no intention of giving up the day job.

IT LOOKS as though Pat Conroy, author of Prince of Tides, will be writing what's described as "a reconception" of Gone with the Wind, telling the story from Rhett Butler's perspective. Contracts have vet to be signed but industry sources believe that US publishers St Martin's Press are paying the trustees of the Margaret Mitchell estate around \$4.5m.

COME EARLY January, and thoughts turn to diet books. This New Year, we are invited to join Fergie in Dieting with the Duchess, the latest of her collaborations with WeightWatchers. The Simon & Schuster catalogue promises that dear Sarah will share with us her "secrets and sensible advice for a great body" and her plan for "a healthy new lifestyle". The author blurb is coy. "Sarah Ferguson has worked for a time at a public relations firm, an art gallery and for a publisher. She is also the author of a series of children's books and currently a spokesperson for Weight Watchers International. She lives in London, England," No mention, then, of her work as a chalet girl, or for The Firm.

HAS TOM Wolfe's moment at last arrived? He has cleared the first round of voting for election to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, whose membership is limited to 260 writers and artists. The living and voting include Bellow, Vonnegut and Toni Morrison, and Wolfe is anxious to be counted among their number. Alas, John Updike, a member, has dismissed Wolfe's A Man in Full as "entertainment, not literature". Wolfe's case is not helped by the scorn he has poured on many Academy members in his long career.

THE LITERATOR

Angst and aliens down on dysfunction farm

Deep in an idyllic countryside, squalor and savagery lurk. Hilary Mantel enjoys an anthropological novel of Deep England

WHERE DOES one choose to live, newly retired, financially secure and with no ties of sentiment or duty? Somewhere picturesque, of course. Stella Brentwood, a social anthropologist, chooses Somerset. "All these books. Dead give-away." says the removal man. "He did not specify what it was that was given away."

She settles in her new cottage amid the usual detritus of expatriate life: the scuffed and crazilystamped passports with the corners clipped, and the bundles of photographs showing sunburnt incarnations of an earlier self. Childless and unmarried by choice, Stella has abandoned clingy lovers because her work has been more important to her.

Now her work will not let her go. She has arrived in a place where public life is almost non-existent, and she cannot help but contrast it with



Spiderweb by Penelope Lively Viking, £15.99, 218pp

the more vital communal life of the Maltese and Egyptian villages she has known. She watches her neighbours - though not closely enough, as it turns out - and tries to make

This observer's stance separates her from the life around her "You are still carrying around a mental notepad and pen - trash them," she tells herself. Her position is analogous to that of the writer.

Writers cannot retire any more than they can take holidays. Their expertise has shaky foundations, because the presence of the observer changes the behaviour of the observed. And the writer shares the anthropologist's grave limitation: "We see only what we already

As in her earlier novel, Heat Wave, Penelope Lively shows herself an astute and unsentimental portraitist of rural England, that highly-subsidised wasteland of suicidal angst and hazardous chemicals. Stella's neighbours are reserved, absent or hostile.

In the case of the Hiscox family, they are actively dangerous, and the

passages in which Lively describes the routine squalor of the Hiscox bungalow, its yard and outbuildings, are the most grimly enjoyable in the book. A withdrawn harddrinking father, a hopeless granny and two sullen teenage boys creep and slouch through their days under the lash of Mrs Hiscox's tongue. They are a family dysfunctional even by the standards of the

Starkadders in Cold Comfort Form. The source of Karen Hiscox's colossal anger is never revealed, but we get a powerful sense of her scary presence as she deals out blows and disinformation. She will not tell her sons where they were born or where they spent their early lives. She has confiscated their past.

They are an extreme example of the deracinated folk Stella finds all about her. She is an student of lineage and kinship structures:what is she to do in a society where no one

know or cares if their great-grandfather was a turnip? By its nature, Stella's day-to-day

life is uneventful, and such events as occur are recollected by her. This hands Penelope Lively a problem, because it is hard to inject vigour and impetus into the story. In its considerable pleasures and

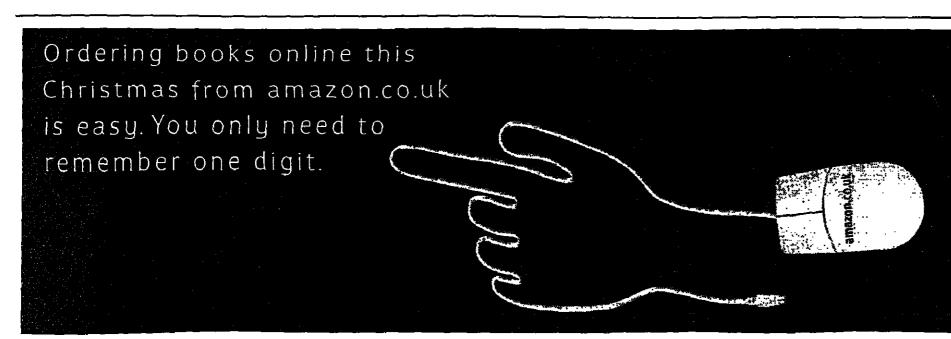
also its gentle pace, Spiderweb has a good deal in common with Alison Lurie's latest novel, The Last Resort, in which an elderly naturalist struggles to finish a final book. Whatever her subject, Penelope Lively's writing is clean and elegant, and her clarity of exposition is such that it seems ungrateful to wish there were a little less of it.

Much of the novel's wry comedy is carried by the relationship between Stella and Richard, a retired civil servant, the widower of one of Stella's old friends. Richard's favourite word seems to be "agree-

able". He displays the pitiful anxiety of a man who knows he is a caricature of himself, but can do nothing about it. He is full of goodwill and a desire to be useful. Finally he suggests that he and Stella cohabit, putting the proposal in a letter or memorandum divided under these heads: "PRACTICAL ADVAN-TAGES - EMOTIONAL DITTO -

PHYSICAL RELATIONS." He is a modern Mr Collins, and his billet-down deserves to appear in many anthologies. Stella, being a modern woman, doesn't wait around for D'Arcy, but packs a bag. The reader is sorry for her, because wherever she goes she will be taking herself with her, along with some unhealed griefs, and some hopes baffled. And, of course, her index cards, and notebook, and pen.

Hilary Mantel's latest novel is "The Giant, O'Brien" (Fourth Estate)



Avaid the high street crush this Christmasi You can shop with us angeime, day or night, and enjoy savings of 4p to 40% of ingose a Christmas gift from our nuce selection of books. We'll wrap t, send it and attach your own personalised massage. (You can

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Even the planet's top speculator now seeks a rational alternative to today's casino capitalism. There is one, argues Denis MacShane, but does Britain have the will and vision to pioneer it?

The new tasks of Soros

ohn Maynard Keynes denounced politicians in thrall to defunct economic ideologies. For the past quarter century, the world has been told that if only democracy and society with their elected representatives - would stand aside, then the self-correcting forces of the unregulated market would solve the world's problems. Market fundamentalism has

now become another defunct ideology. We have come to the end of what historians will call the Chicago-Pinochet era. And panic is setting in. A third of the world is in recession. Massive amounts of tax-payers' money has to be handed to banks in order to prevent collapse. Inequalities are increasing. No city is free of beggars; and 150 years after legislation stopped little boys going up chimneys, we have 1.9 million children in waged labour in Britain. Worldwide, the number of child labourers has doubled to 250 million in a decade. Dickens and Zola would feel at home.

Naming and blaming abounds. Continental socialists denounce America. The English right hates Europe. Asianists who once proclaimed that the future lay in the east and they ranged from far-right John Redwood to soft-Marxist Martin Jacques) have gone strangely quiet. They are praying that no one digs up the cuttings in which they prostrated themselves before Malaysia's Dr Mahathir or Indonesia's General Subarto.

So, as PEP statements flood through letter boxes to show a decline in the value of our savings, the time has come to listen to those economic pundits connected with reality. No one has had a stronger connection with financial reality than archspeculator George Soros. He has rushed out his book on global capitalism a few weeks after the Russian devaluation - in which he lost millions - convinced him that he had a message for the world.

As he makes clear in this fas- of it. He provides no solution, that serious economic thinkers makers today is to avoid a decinating work, the bottom line save a more democratic UN can swim against the stream, scent into the barbarism of the investment in firms which no longer produced adequate returns. Thus he made his money. And thus the abandoned firms and their communities lost access to the capital that fuels hope and growth.

Soros writes that "the development of a global economy has not been matched by a development of a global society". We can all agree with that. But what is the speculator-philanhropist's answer? He spends 200 pages defining the problem without admitting that he and other speculators formed part



They had seen the future - and it burns. Rioting and looting in Indonesia signal the end of the Asian miracle EPA



The Crisis of Global Capitalism by George Soros Little, Brown, £17.99, 244pp

his own to set up after-school

more apocalyptic than Soros.

He sees populism and fascism

as the likely response to glob-

al economic instability. His win-

"turbo-capitalism" has shut

down its after-burners, and in

too many countries looks more

like a Lada than a Ferrari.

"Turbo-capitalism too, shall

pass," he writes. Agreed. But

Luttwak again offers no an-

what comes in its place?

ner-takes-all model

Edward Luttwak is even

classes in poor areas.

Turbo-Capitalism by Edward Luttwak Weidenfeld & Nicolson. £20. 290pp

passion and concern for the

poor provided an ethical di-

mension to her economics, ab-

sent from too many recent

discussions. She had every

right to say"l told you so",

since she coined the phrase

"Casino Capitalism" - the title

of her 1986 book. Her last work,

Mad Money, is a reprise of its

argument, but with an old-fash-

ioned catastrophe thesis at the

core. This argues that it all has

to get a lot worse before it gets

Strange has half a point,

any better.

swer, but Susan Strange shows The supreme task of policy



Mad Money by Susan Strange Manchester University Press £13.99, 212pp

for the post-1945 economy.

But the point about that plan

lar credits offered by the US. If

Aid, they had to respect democ-

racy, draw up productivity

overnments wanted Marshall

Susan Strange writes warm-



The Ownership Solution by Jeff Gates Allen Lane/ Penguin Press,

£20, 389pp

plans, and order managers to negotiate with employees.

Crash and the arrival of Keynes to develop welfare programmes at Bretton Woods in 1944. Yet so that the fear of the future public opinion is not yet suffibrought by individualised prociently alarmed to provide povision of health, education and litical leaders with the pressure old-age care was removed. The to impose reforms like those plan amounted to direct interthat Keynes and Roosevelt's ference in national sovereign-New Deal economists drew up ty to make a connection between market growth and democracy; between a social ly of the postwar Marshall Plan. policy aimed at reducing inequalities and the rooting-in of was not just the generous dol-

stable capitalist institutions. The past decade has seen Soros and his comrades in Wall Street, the City and European bourses showering money on

corrupt, arms-hungry, police states without ever asking in return for any respect for social rights, a free media, an independent judiciary, or balanced domestic growth. If the world economy is to be set right again, it must connect money with democracy. Growth will have to provide more equal

ings as well as PEP profitability. But if it all gets worse, it will simply get worse. A retreat to protectionism, to the kind of anti-European isolationism advocated by William Hague, will simply produce a nastier, meaner, more authoritarian

shares, via a world trading sys-

tem that respects human be-

Yet there is a better way. Jeff Gates - neither financier, nor professor, nor journalist - has written the best book on economics for a generation in The Ownership Solution. This is a running commentary on where modern economics has gone wrong. His fluent book is full of insight and description, assembled in an accessible and readable manner. And Gates has a policy prescription: massively to expand ownership of the economy by turning millions of employees into stakeholders in their own firms.

The clumsy acronym ESOP Employee Share Ownership Plan) does no justice to a new form of ownership that goes far beyond either the state ownership of classic socialism or the Anglo-Saxon model of ownership by pension, saving and insurance funds. ESOPs in the US cover more than 9 million workers in more than 10,000 firms. Jeff Gates served as a counsel for the US Senate Finance Committee, which developed ESOP legislation in the 1980s, and his book is a huge how-to-do-it compendium covering all aspects of the legal, fiscal and ethical complexities of changing company ownership.

In Britain, we are stuck with quill pen-and-ink company legislation largely unchanged since 1857. Our one-club model of ownership – the plc - stifles innovation and entrepreneurship. To change that requires ownership, so that more people will have a sense that they belong in the economy and can benefit from its activity.

Can Britain take a lead to encourage new forms of ownership based around employee stakeholding? This could be the third-way model for the next century. It would help to restore the equilibrium that, as George Soros has finally understood, is desperately missing from the modern economy.

Denis MacShane is Labour MP for Rotherham

INSPIRATIONS

ARTIST AND WRITER QUENTIN BLAKE

The film Though it was put together in the days of the German occupation, Carne and Prévert succeeded in making Les Enfants du Paradis a vivio evocation of 19th-century France.

Barrault, Brasseur and Arletty were able to bring to life three richly visual personalities: one full of expressive gesture; one of fiamboyant theatricality; one of enigmatic poise. They seem to be behind so

The place It was as a schoolboy that I first encountered Ronney Marsh; I loved its sense of remoteness, solitude and infinity. I like visiting those old churches marooned in the grass, with their peeling whitewash spared too much restoration. Then the shore, the shingle and wading birds, and the smell of mud at low tide. It survives, despite the crime against humanity of the **Dungeness Power Station**

many of the people that I

have wanted to or been

called upon to draw.

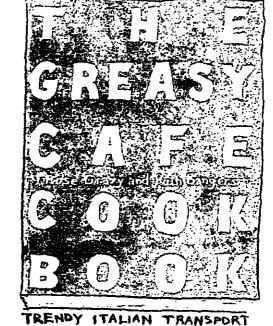
The memory of Peter Brook's early production of Love's Labours Lost stays with me as something rich

melancholy, wit, and pace; perhaps more eloguent than Brook's more experimental works. It was a wonderful example of how to tell a story in words and

The artwork I could list hundreds of paintings and drawings that have excited me; but if I have to settle for one, perhaps it should be the lithograph by Honoré Daumier which hangs - a sort of secular icon above my bed. This fulllength portrait of "M. D'Arco" is first of all a satirical caricature. But in its grasp of form, its grave intensity, the work becomes serious as well, and timelessly impressive.

The music Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata, in the recording by Arthur Grumiaux and Clara Haskill. It's chamber works that speak to me most. In this case, I sense that the violin and piano have a sort of words-andpictures symbiosis; certainly the élan and fluency of Grumiaux's playing is to me the sound most like pen-drawing.

Quentin Blake's latest book is "Zagazoo" (Cape)



CAFE CUISINE.

Catastrophe strikes the Cliveden Set

War and revolution drove the Anglo-American plutocracy off the rails. By **Philip Hoare**

COMBINE THE plots of Gone With the Wind and The Rerains of the Day, add a dash of Henry James and F Scott Fitzgerald, and you come close to the remarkable mix of family history, political intrigue and high society hauteur that is James Fox's The Langhorne Sisters. The sisters in question are the five Southern Belle daughters of "Chillie" and Nancy Langhorne, ante-belhum survivors living out the Confederacy in late 19th-century America, ready to export said daughters across the Atlantic to marry into the English peerage in exchange for a taint of their cultural heritage. To Virginians, going to England was like coming home. Indeed. Nancy Astor's father-in-law left the US altogether, declaring "America is not a fit place for a gentleman to live".

Nancy Astor stands out from her four sisters as heroine and villainess of the book. Marriage to Waldorf meant the translation of tomboyish spirits into political action when her husband's inheritance of a viscountcy disqualified him from standing for Parliament. Nancy stepped into his shoes and a histrionic, celebrated career in the political bearpit that was (and is) the House of Commons.

She became a socialist reformer in Tory clothing, camaigning fearlessly for social justice while fighting a rearguard action with vested male interests. "If I'd known how much men would hate it I never would have dared do it," she said later - without a trace of real regret.

Her exchanges with Win-ston Churchill are famous. Less well-known sallies include her response to one MP who mused to the chamber "When I was walking in my gar-den, this is the question asked myself..." "And I bet you got a silly answer," retorted an outof-order Nancy.

She was out of order all her life; a woman who could not show affection and succeeded in driving away all her children (save one) and her loyal husband, too. Nancy dominates the lives, loves and woes of this transatiantic soap, a period costume fantasy.

All the characters are there: Nancy's sister Phyllis and her drunken first husband Reggie Brooks; her soldier-adventurer lover Henry Tennant, who would die in the Great War; and her second husband, Bob Brand Brand was an influential member of the Kindergarten: the young Oxonians sent to fix post-Boer War South Africa who ended up trying to fix the rest of the world, from the Treaty of Versailles (when Brand worked with Keynes to lessen German reparations) to Munich (when the "Cliveden



The Langhorne Sisters by James Fox Granto, £20, 576pp

roneously held to be pro-

appeasement and pro-Nazi). This pre-Great War generation believed "that they were dealing with a rational, perfectible world". One of the byproducts of Fox's book is to cast a new, insider's view on that changing world, as war and so-

cial revolution blew it apart,

It also blew apart the lives of the Langhorne Sisters. It claimed their children, three of whom would commit suicide: Phyllis's dandy son Winkie, who threw himself out of New York hotel room; Peter; an aviator, who shot himself; and Bobbie Shaw, Nancy's son by her first marriage, who took an overdose.

For me, Bobbie Shaw's story seems to stand for the dysfunctional second generation. An "extraordinarily handsome" golden boy, Guards officer and show jumper, he was arrested Set" around the Astors were for soliciting guardsmen in 1931 widely and, as Fox proves, er- and spent four months in gaol.

shadow, devoting himself to working-class boys just as Nancy devoted herself to the working class of her Plymouth constituency - with a very different intent. Fox contributes a memo-

rable account of Shaw in 1960. Then an ageing Teddy Boy in drape jacket, crepe-soled shoes and greased jet-black hair, he kept his Woodbines in a Fabergé cigarette case and was "able to say, apparently with impunity, in what sounded like a cockney accent, 'Oh mother, do shut up". Few others dared to say the

same. Only those who did, inti-

mates Fox, earned Nancy's respect. Like the cast of a Noel Coward play, this was a group of people unable to communicate. Bob Brand declared, when he failed to assemble the trunkful of letters so skilfully used here by his grandson, that "It is only now that I realise intensely the limitations of the common plain Englishman I have no visual imagination, no power of describing what is perhans indescribable, only a wound in my heart which never seems to heal."

Fox has succeeded where Brand failed. He reconstructs this world in illuminating detail. from the nuances of the Southern relations with their black servants (regarded virtually as aunts or uncles) to the fetishistic English hunt where women

He lived on in his mother's wore chamois leather next to the skin against the cold so as not to spoil the line of their clothes. Much in their world was done for appearance, to keep the side up; and this is what makes Nancy's passions rise above the story of her siblings and relations.

Yet, with her obsessional adherence to Christian Science (which would leave her only daughter permanently damaged when Nancy withheld medical treatment after a riding accident) and her crusades against the world of men, drink and sex, hers was a life which seems perpetually thwarted. She placed a barrier between herself and a comfortable existence.

Perhaps that is what money and class - mixed with her American, outsider quality did for Nancy and her family. In a memorable phrase, Fox writes that her inability to show affection "laid a gunpowder trail of unhappiness around her".

It was a trail that would only be put out by Bobbie Shaw's sad suicide, six years after his mother's death.

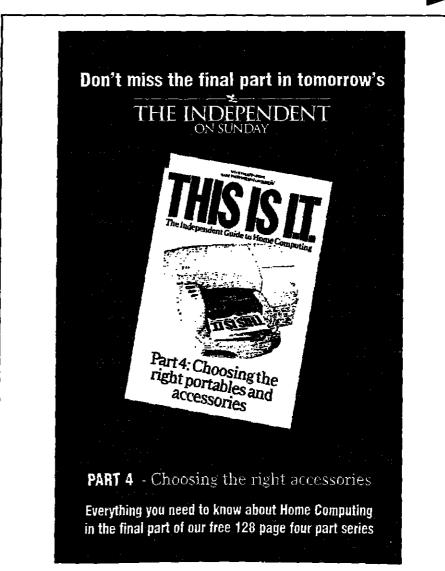
That evening, he rang round his friends and family to say thank you and goodbye, and told the boy he was with that be was going to Fort Augustus. where he had spent childhood summers with Nancy, "before any siblings disturbed

TRAVEL IN THE WEEKEND REVIEW



Barbados: the ultimate weekend destination? Hamish McRae takes the perfect short break

PAGE 20







SPOKEN WORD CHRISTINA HARDYMENT

Finnegans Wake

by James Joyce

Naxos, 5hrs, £15.99

JAMES JOYCE'S famously

languages is "drop this

inaccessible final work recently came 11th in a poil of novels of the century. If your reaction to its

jiggerypokery and talk straight

dreamlike patchwork of European

turkey meet to mate" (to quote the

book itself), help is at hand. In what

must be the most innovative and

ambitious audiobook ever, the full

text of the extracts is provided, so

you can see, hear and appreciate -

tendresses (sorry, it's infectious).

Hearing the words in rhythmic

Irish accents is also essential.

impossible in any other way to

appreciate fooly the dyblong

PAPERBACKS

BY EMMA HAGESTADT AND CHRISTOPHER HIRST



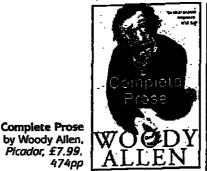
516pp

DESPITE ITS textbook appearance, this lively account of our continent's evolution is freighted with treasures.

We learn about Greek debates on democracy ("monarchy is neither pleasant nor good"), Michelangelo's scathing view of Flemish contemporaries ("their painting is of stuffs, bricks and mortar"), how public bathhouses and kissing became suspect following the importation of syphilis by Columbus's crew, and that an English scientist insisted that a fundamental distinction between humans and apes was scientifically untenable. Darwin? No, Edward Tyson in 1698.



A CHRISTMASSY selection of short stories from one of England's less showy literary stars. Cut off by snow, or non-appearing taxis, Jane Gardam's characters find themselves adrift. In the story "Old Filth", two lawyers are forced to share Christmas in a remote Dorset cottage; in "Missing the Midnight", a depressed student travelling south on Christmas Eve finds comfort in the eyes of a priest. Scattered among these gems are some more eccentric stories. particularly "The Pillow Goose", a tale of two "green" sisters, who anaesthetise a flock of geese to spare them the pain

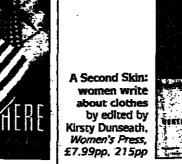


IT'S ARGUABLE that Allen's reputation would have been higher if he had stuck to prose. As an auteur, he's not quite Bergman. But as an author, at least in the best of these 52 pieces, he's up there with S J Perelman. Stories like "The Kugelmass Episode", in which Emma Bovary causes havoc in New York ("I want to see the Jack Nicholson character you always talk about"), or "The Schmeed Memoirs", about Hitler's barber ("An attempt was just made on the Fuhrer's moustache") are classics. Like his films, Allen's stories are short and ingenious; unlike

them, they're funny.



READING RAYMOND Seitz's memoirs of his years as America's ambassador to the Court of St James's, you're left with the impression that the job is not as top drawer as you might think. For a start, the ambassador's Regent Park residence suffers from bad plumbing and gloomy decor. Not that Seitz is complaining. A natural diplomat, his book reads like a series of faultless after dinner speeches. Class, cricket and tea with John Major are handled with authority, though the author gets hot under the collar when describing Clinton's controversial appointee to Ireland, Jean Kennedy Smith.



AN ENJOYABLE prowl round the wardrobe of the soul. In her paean to brothel creepers ("beauty and truth, genius personified"), Deborah Levy says of going sockless: "To not wear socks is to not pretend that love is forever." Caryn Franklin's platform sandals "were like family to me." Joan Smith extols the all-in-one Body: wearable, sexy and I can open the door in it." A L Kennedy has tender memories of a basque: "here it controlled flesh, kept it pleasantly confined; elsewhere it left me complicitly free." Beloved jeans, hated shorts, a precious scarf: these clothes resonate.



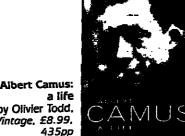
A Song of Stone by lain Banks Cult Listening, 3hrs. £8.99

NOT ONE for Aunt Mabel or the faint-hearted, Iain Banks's chilling gothic tale is so powerfully and fluently phrased that it makes mesmerising listening. Abel and Morgan, a mysteriously allied couple, are in flight from their ancestral castle in a postwar panic in unlabelled terrain. A charismatic woman lieutenant takes them back there and, slowly, mutual understanding grows - and then falters. All credit to reader Peter Capaldi, whose husky, lightly Glaswegian voice puts over the urgency, passion and resigned despair of the story superbly.



Crazy Think by Elly Summers,

YET ANOTHER tale of suburban yukkiness, this debut mystery rounds up all the usual suspects. New York accountant Richard Hayes has spent his adult years trying to forget his traumatic childhood. Then one evening he receives a call from his sister saying that she has just murdered her husband. Claire will go to jail, unless her lawyer can prove that she was abused as a child. Some unpalatable scenes with daddy, and a plot that manipulates more than it entertains: Summer describes that unsettling made-for-TV world where dads rape babysitters and moms bake cookies.



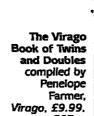
by Olivier Todd. Vintage, £8.99.

of being plucked.

TERSE, IRONIC, lucid, Todd's style is wonderfully suited to his likeable but uneasy subject. Born into a workingclass pied noir family, Camus's literary creativity was sparked by the tensions of his Algerian background. Despite lungs ravaged by TB and Disques Bleu, he was an energetic womaniser. His humane morality, which led him to petition on behalf of collaborators. prompted a massive bust-up with Sartre. Camus's "endearing human warmth and goodness" are reminiscent of Orwell. But how many readers will enjoy L'Etranger after being enthralled by this gutsy portrait is debatable.



THE OBJECTS in A M Homes's stylish short stories may be safe (plastic garden chairs, kitchen floors, plant pots) but what happens to them is always unpredictable, and usually slippery. In "Jim Train", a lawyer saves up his afternoon pee to urinate in his superior's potted plant; in "Chunky in Heat" a fat teenager pleasures herself in her mother's favourite lawn chair, and in "A Real Doll" a young boy makes it with a Barbie doll. The least provocative story in the collection, "Adults Alone", is a wickedly humorous account of a couple forced to spend time together without the children.



THIS COMPILATION arose during the death of Farmer's twin sister from cancer. Poignantly, the impact of a twin's death is tackled by Marquez: "He had the certainty that if he had gone over to a mirror, he would have found it blank." More cheerful aspects of the "apple cleft in twain" (Twelfth Night) are explored with P G Wodehouse and Mark Twain. But it is the dark magic of identical siblings which echoes in the mind, whether Marjorie Wallace's The Silent Twins or Oliver Sacks's encounter with moron twins who exchanged prime numbers, "like two connoisseurs wine tasting".

TWINS and

doubles

JANE THYNNE'S wartime romance switches between life in London blackouts and a less than glamorous present. Accompanying her boyfriend to a conference in deepest Sussex, Westminster lobbyist Jessica Leigh is left with time on her hands. Exploring the grounds of the hotel, once the country seat of pioneering geneticist Sir Lewis Appleby, she stumbles upon the great man's long-forgotten secret. In a novel of two halves, Thynne's writing perceptively brightens when she enters the Mary Wesley-esque world of grey-eyed debutantes and

The Shell House

by Jane Thynne,

Fourth Estate,

£9.99, 282pp

Ribbentrop flunkies. Stages on the rocky road from tyranny to triviality

Scarred South American exiles meet London liggers in a timely fictional encounter. Jonathan Myerson admires the result



The Silver River by Ben Richards Review. £14.99, 310pp sive who rejects politics. A documore to life than clubs and coke.

But this is a London still quietly unaware of Augusto Pinochet. Appropriately, Ben Richards's third book is all about the people who care,

liggers, with girlfriends who wear agit-prop commitment like a medal.

the grime and glitter of London. But this is merely the backdrop to a world the people who don't yet, and the of indecision and easy pleasure. people who never will. It's a quiet and Richards knows these people well. made sure that middle-class Nick coke and sexual misadventure. In the

A FORMER Tupamaro terrorist opts humane novel that explores the con- His writing brings a harsh light to for the quiet life as an office cleaner. sequences of action and inaction. But bear on the compromises of his two His son becomes an Internet obses- it is also willing to explore the peo- central characters. Nick is a jourple who care too much - there are hallst Orlando a cleaner but both are until Nick agrees to rollow

when he bumps into a school friend, The "victim" was a local dealer. George, now a bouncer. At their

mentary producer wonders if there's feckless researchers and passionate running from their beliefs, embar- wrongful murder conviction. This rassed by their own political passions. "innocent man" is a fellow-bouncer Nick is producing documentaries who stomped on a 20-year-old's chest Richards writes luminously about for a miscarriage-of-justice series until his rib went through his lung.

The leads merely lure Nick back comprehensive, it was George who into the world of rooftop parties,

avoided getting beaten up. But then club at the centre of the investigation. Nick shipped out to a private school. Nick notices Orlando. The foreign George plays on Nick's discomfort, cleaner becomes Nick's salvation. Oriando's voice acts as the moral

looks back on his time in Uruguay, his flight to Chile, Argentina, and then Britain. Orlando - his hair greying, his idealism cauterised in the stadium basement - is content with his job.

He will not risk rediscovering his political drive. In South America, he

lost home, career and marriage. The chapters which deal with the coups, the arrests and the tortures are unshowy. Richards doesn't dwell on the guide. A guerrilla. a true believer, he gory anecdotes (too easy at this time) but picks out simple moments of compassion and cold-heartedness. He knows this lack of detail leaves the reader as much in the dark as all those mothers standing in the square with their photographs. We don't deserve to know more than them.

WIN ONE OF 50 COCKBURN'S TV HAMPERS

The Independent have teamed up with Cockburn's Special Reserve Port to offer 50 lucky readers the chance to win a Cockburn's TV style hamper. The hamper will provide the perfect touch to your TV viewing over the festive season, and contains a bottle of Cockburn's Special Reserve Port, two beautiful inscribed glasses and a tantalising selection of nuts, biscuits, olives and chocolates. Cockburn's Special Reserve has bought another great comedy season to your screens this Autumn on ITV. The pinnacle of this season comes tonight, when Jonathan Ross hosts the glitziest event in the showbiz calendar - the star-studded 1998 British Comedy Awards. So, for the best seat in the house, settle down in front of the TV and tune in to The 1998 British Comedy Awards 9-11.30pm on ITV with a glass of Cockburn's Special Reservé Port. There's no excuse for missing out on the ultimate experience in good comedy,

To win one of these hampers all you have to do is to dial the number below, answer the following question on the line and leave your name, full address and a daytime contact number:

Q: Which channel will broadcast The 1998 British Comedy Awards tonight?

a) BBC 1

b) ITV

c) Channel 4

CALL 0906 470 0922





Calls cost 60p per minute and should last no longer than two minutes. Winners will be picked at random after lines close at midnight on Sanday 13 December 1998. There are no alternative prizes or cash substitutes. Normal Independent rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

BEST-SELLERS

Not many surprise hits ever penetrate the thick pall of tinsel and gift-wrap that hangs over the charts at this time of year. Perhaps the latest lubricious romp from laddette-in-chief Kathy Lette counts as a treat for its purchasers rather than for a favourite auntie. Otherwise, the stocking-bound big beasts from the autumn stampede dominate the fiction list with a slightly depressing uniformity. Frantic Christmas

discounting - which will cut the cost of a £16.99 book by up to 50 per cent in many retail outlets can only reinforce their stranglehold. In non-fiction, the winner-takes-all effect looks even more pronounced. Queen Delia and King David prove in spades just how much BBC books benefit from all that free (and deeply anti-competitive) on-screen advertising. Still, it's good to see Nigel Slater's

achievable meals trouncing the more lah-di-dah celebrity chefs. And, while Raymond Briggs's Ethel & Ernest might look like a perfect present for that Aged Parent, it is also a delightful work of art.

Compiled by Bookwatch from sales over seven days ending 6 December. c Copyright Bookwatch Ltd, 1998

ORIGINAL FICTION

TITLE	AUTHOR/PUBLISHER	WEEKLY SALES	PRICE	
1 (1) Carpe Jugulum	Terry Pratchett (Doubleday)	9.824	£16,99	
2 (2) Tara Road	Maeve Binchy (Orion)	7,382	£16.99	
3 (4) Field of Thirteen	Dick Francis (M Joseph)	5,374	£16.99	
4 (3) Point of Origin	Patricia D Cornwell (Little, Brown)	5,320	£16.99	
5 (5) Rainbow Six	Tom Clancy (M Joseph)	5,151	£16.99	
6 (7) Archangel	Robert Harris (Hutchinson)	4.962		
7 (6) Charlotte Gray	Sebastian Faulks (Hutchinson)	4.416	£16.99	
B (11) Altar Ego	Kathy Lette (Picador)	2,800	£16.99	
9 (9) The Blind Years	Catherine Cookson (Bantam)	2,670	£12.99	
0 (8) Bag of Bones	Stephen King (Hodder)	2,599	£9.99 £16.99	

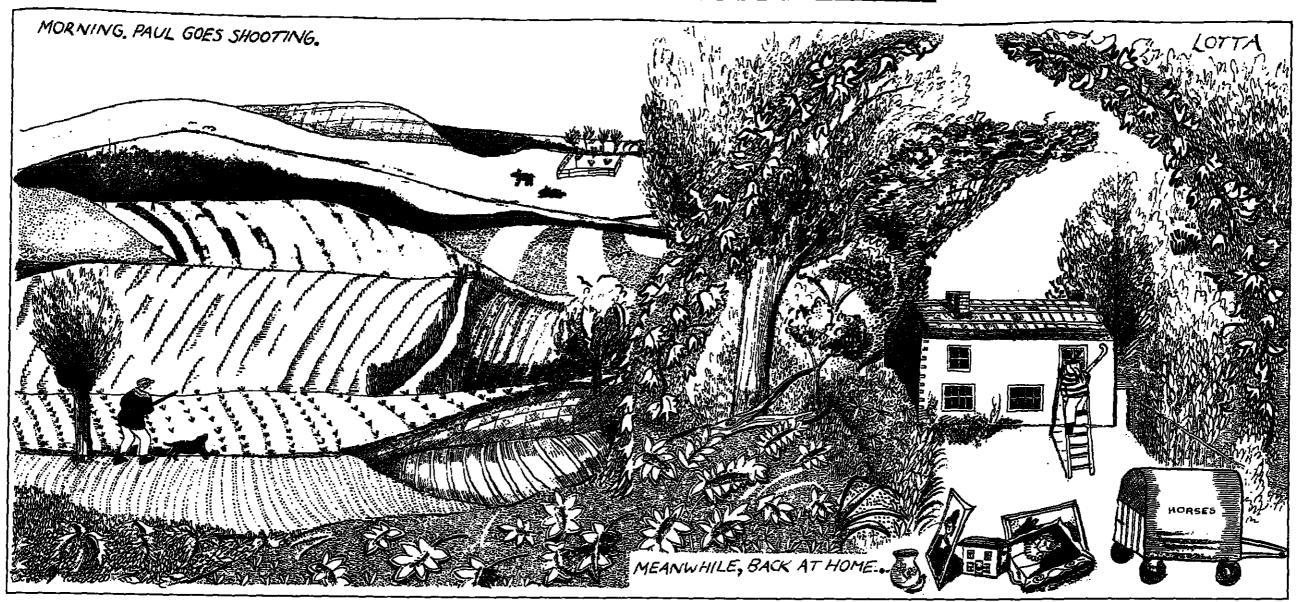
ORIGINAL NON-FICTION

TITLE	AUTHOR/PUBLISHER	WEEKLY SALES	PRICE
(1) Delia's How to Cook, Book 1 2(3) The Life of Birds 3(2) Notes from a Big Country 4(4) Blackadder: the whole	Delia Smith (BBC) David Attenborough (BBC) Bill Bryson (Doubleday)	61,584 18,857 17,238	£16.99 £18.99 £16.99
damned dynasty 5(12) The Private Eye Annual 1998 5(7) The Little Book of Caim 7(8) Little Book of Feng Shui 8(6) Addicted 9(9) Ethel & Ernest 0(13) Real Food	Richard Curtis et al (M Joseph) lan Hislop, editor (Private Eye) Paul Wilson (Penguin) Lillian Too (Element) Tony Adams/ lan Ridley (Collins Willow) Raymond Briggs (Cape) Nigel Slater (Fourth Estate)	9,376 7,733 7,651 7,613 7,458 6,235 6,153	£15.99 £7.99 £1.99 £1.99 £16.99 £14.99

EEKEND REVIEW

ist tenn

COUNTRY & GARDEN



A burgling wife and her polo stick

farcical events frequently occur in the countryside, but have you heard the one who was obliged to burgle her own house with a polo stick?

In our neck of the woods a middlereged couple - let us call them Paul and Petra - have been going through a long-drawn-out separation. The isolated house in which they lived belonged to Petra, but she decamped some time ago to set up on her own, leaving Paul in occupation. Naturally, she wanted to recover some of her effects - pictures, and items of fur- be hellishly wet. The rain was so niture - but Paul proved difficult, refusing her access to the house. Once, as she arrived with the aim of collecting things, he deliberately drove off in the opposite direction, jeaving the place locked.

The answer, she reckoned, was — sibly resorting to violence.

veryone knows that on a day when Paul was shooting. So it was that she lined up a couple of helpers - her sister-in-law, who is married to a solicitor, and another tough lady whose contract gardenabout the woman ing keeps her fighting fit - and planned a raid for the following Saturday. On the appointed morning the team set off armed with a horsetrailer, a ladder, a hammer, and a polo stick - for Petra, knowing every inch of her own bouse, aimed to break a small top pane of glass and

> stairs window. Alas, the morning turned out to heavy, in fact, that the women became alarmed that the syndicate, which was close at hand, might call off its shoot prematurely, and that Paul might suddenly return home, catching them red-handed and pos-

fish down inside with the polo stick

to pull up the catch of a main up-

the ladder in position against the wall, and Petra up it, hammer in hand, when suddenly they saw a Land Rover sweeping down the drive towards them. Panic! But it was too late to move and, before they could react, two men who looked like farmers had got out of the vehicle and started advancing on them.

One headed for Catherine, the sister-in-law, held out a wad of notes. and said, "I brought the money for the tractor."

"Oh," Catherine gasped, pointing at Petra. "You'd better give it to Mrs Turner. She's the one up the ladder." So the farmer handed over £450 and then went away, leaving the women free to carry out their burglary: Having fiddled their way in with the polo stick, they assembled what they wanted, including a large doll's house and several pictures, and cleared off without further alarms.

COUNTRY **MATTERS**



DUFF Hart-Davis

glass from the windowpane. So the little saga ended happily - more so than another ridiculous episode. which took place last week.

Adrian, the builder who has been refurbishing our kitchen, left the

a man had driven his car into the churchyard wall, had become lodged, and was blocking the lane. Could I go and drag or push him off? "He needs watching," added Adrian in warning. "He's had a few."

That proved to be some understatement. When the builder's van hove in sight, the driver had leapt from his vehicle shouting "Fourteenth Lancers!" many times over. When I reached him, he sprang out again crying, among other extravagant exclamations, "Gentlemen, I salute you. What can I do for you?" Coming down the lane too fast. he had failed to take a bend and crunched his near-side front wing into a stone wall, hitting several vards of it down and leaving his car

half in the air. We could have dragged him off that would have meant going up, pyramid-builders and other ancient peoples, the lever. With a stout fence-post at an angle under his front axle, and four men pushing, we managed to dislodge the car enough for its rear wheels to grip the Tar-

mac and pull it back on to the road. Once freed, the driver became still more effusive. "Sirs!" he shouted, capering about. "Gentlemen, I shall buy you all a drink. It's champagne all round in the Old Crown at midday tomorrow. Bollinger at noon in the Old Crown.

Throughout all this his female companion - possibly his wife, but who could tell? - sat stony-faced in the passenger's seat.

The man had already told Adrian that he was bed-and-breakfasting at the farm on top of the hill. If that was right, he had less than a mile to go, backwards with another vehicle - but but even in such a short distance I on a further binge, I'm sure we would was afraid he would annihilate some Meticulous to the last, they scribbled house a little before six one evening down and round a three-mile circuit pedestrian or another motorist. on the night - but he faces hefty birglary. But how to ensure that the Nervous as they were, they went a note to say that they had taken the and set off for home. Twenty minutes to get behind him. Instead. we rehouse would be empty? Answer: go ahead - and there they were, with money, and swept up the broken later he was back, with the news that sorted to that device beloved of going?" "No distance at all," he for the wall.

cried. "The Evanses, is it?" "No, no. Some damned Welsh name. James or something." "Not Evans?" "Jones." "Sure it's not Evans?" "Yes, yes. Evans. What's your name?" "Duff. But take it easy." Away he went in a rush, and reported that he had been rescued by someone called Duff on his arrival.

But did he then settle down for the evening? Did he hell. He and his companion sallied forth again, Soon they were back in the Old Crown but where they went when that closed at 11pm, none could say. They did not come home to roost until two in the morning.

Should we have summoned the police when we realised the state the driver was in? Much as I dislike shopping people, I think we should have. If we'd known that he was bent have. As it was, he got away with it

The wild ones strut their stuff

Once almost extinct, undomesticated turkeys are staging a comeback. By Malcolm Smith

THIS COMING Christmas - if last year's They vary only slightly in appearance is anything to go by - British households will consume a staggering 12 million turkeys. It was such consumption, althe culinary needs of the all-American November Thanksgiving rather than Christmas Day, that very nearly put paid to the turkey in the wild. As you tuck into your culinary feast later this month, you may care to reflect for a moment on the fact that, on just this relatively small island of ours, we will sate ourselves over whole of North America held in its forests before European settlers began to lav waste to them.

To the very first European pioneers spreading across the vastness of the eastern half of what is now the United States, these huge and distinctive birds, which feed on the ground by day and roost out of harm's way in trees at night, must have seemed heaven-sent to fill hungry stomachs. With adult hens weighing in at 10-12lb and the males known as "gobblers" from their loud, gobbling call - reaching double that, wild turkeys soon became a more common sight on a scrub-top table than they did around the edges of the forests where they had once been so abundant.

According to Michael Seamster, of the oth Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, no other bird can compare with play isn't already over the top, the bird the wild turkey in its importance to the early settlers. Large, colourful, groundliving birds, hungry settlers, and the unchallenged right to bear arms are a heady combination. What is amazing is that the species survived at all.

Wild turkeys are found only on the North American continent. It is calcu- the local girls, try telling them - if you lated that two centuries ago there were about 10 million of them, concentrated in what is now the eastern US, southeast Canada, extensive tracts of the Mid-Central America.

By 1950 only about 300,000 survived, a decline attributed not solely to hunters' guns but also to habitat destruction and, maybe, to diseases introduced by domestic poultry.

But, because some of these North American populations had been physically isolated from each other - probably for sellennia - no fewer than seven dif-ferant varieties have been recognised. sturdy survivor.

and size, although the occilated turkey of Central America is an altogether diminutive version. Weighing in at no beit on a smaller scale and tailored to more than 8lb, it is good enough for a meal or two but not hefty enough for a Thanksgiving or Christmas feast. All the same, this dwarf of the wild turkey clan has suffered equally from the gun and the woodsman's axe.

While domestic turkeys - originally bred from the large, eastern States varicty of the wild turkey - are either white, two days with more turkeys than the reddish or brown in colour, the wild turkey is a much more attractive bird. The males can be nearly 4ft long, with a chestnut-brown plumage that is beautifully iridescent, giving it a green, blue and dark red sheen in different light. Hens are smaller and lighter brown and both sexes have featherless heads - not their most stunning characteristic, but a colourful blue and red.

If the phrase "strutting his stuff" has a single origin, the male turkey on sexually charged parade simply must be it. Fanning his huge tail into an ornate, upright semicircle, the gobbler struts around with his wings dragging on the ground. His body is inflated and feathers are a-quiver, his head is drawn in tight against his distended chest, and changes colour between blue, red and white. And, as if this sexually vibrant disproduces a series of puffing calls and the famous "gobbling" sound, which is intended to attract distant nens, but once equally attracted springtime guns. So, the next time you see some equally sexually charged lads strutting their stuff in designer apparel and eyeing up dare - that they can't strut half as well

as a turkey cock. Though large and generally more willing to run to escape danger, wild west, some of the southern states and turkeys have powerful wings that can carry them along at more than 50mph. Adaptable birds, they eat a wide variety of food. Acorns are a favourite when they are available, but buds, fruits, grasses, waste grain, insects and small mammals can all be on the menu. In captivity their lifespan can be as much as 12 years, but wild birds that reaches five years being a very

up to 15 - a feature they have in common with most ground-living birds, which suffer easily from predators. eggs in a single "nest" - basically a scrape in the earth - and, after hatching, tend the insect-eating chicks together. The gobblers, having long finished their strutting, have nothing to do with family life. After three weeks, the young can fly up into trees for a safer night although, by this time, perhaps half of them will have died, victims of either inclement weather or predators.

to 4 million birds.

tremendously successful; we now have about 5,000 pairs and the population is continuing to expand both in numbers and in its distribution," comments Jon McCracken, of Bird Studies Canada. "We have a controlled and very limited sprint hunt which is very popular, but there are absolutely no indications ; that it's having any im-pact on the population." By 1970, North Car-

average just two years, with a turkey than 3,000 more square miles of

Turkeys lay a large number of eggs many years yet," says Michael Seam Quite often, two or more hens lay their and industrial development and habitat

Since the Fifties and Sixties, the wild turkey's fortunes have changed. Controls on hunting, replanting of some previously felled forests and improved management of others, coupled with a greater respect for what is by far the largest ground-living bird on the North American continent, have all contributed to boosting the total population

In Ontario, for example, wild turkeys were reintroduced in the mid Eighties from sturdy populations in Missouri. "It's been olina had around 2,000 wild turkeys left. By in-

troducing more than a thousand more birds from healthy populations in other parts of the United States between then and 1988, numbers now exceed 20,000 and the range of the wild turkey has been extended from 5,000 square miles to around three times that

We reckon that we have more suitable habitat, so restoration will remain the priority for 🌄

ster. But the wild turkey is not out of the woods quite yet. In North Carolina, for instance, there are concerns that urban clearance could limit its recovery in parts of the state, while continued vigilance is necessary to make sure that hunting does not over-exploit vulnerable populations. Thankfully, though, most hunters take a responsible attitude to this fine bird which, if Benjamin Franklin had had his way, would have become the emblem of the United States, rather than the bald eagle.

So, this Christmas, as you gobble down lashings of lunch-time turkey. spare a moment's thought for those other gobblers which, at the very same time in the American Midwest, will be making dawn flights from their tree roosts on to the snow-covered ground to search out their first meal of the day.



NATURE NOTES

and therefore easier for

we had last weekend does both good and harm in the countryside. The beneficial effects of frost are to kill off those field and garden pests that might otherwise survive the winter, and to break down lumps of soil into friable tilth. Cold also benefits predators by weakening prey species and making them sluggish. When snow lies, it renders

HARD WEATHER such as

animals such as rabbits, rats and mice more visible,

hawks to spot. A white blanket also has the effect of extending daylight hours, giving buzzards and kestrels - which do not operate at night - more time in which to hunt.

On the other hand, for small seed-eaters, and insect-eaters such as bedge sparrows and wrens, frost is a potential killer because the birds have a struggle to find enough food to maintain their body

temperature. Frost also creates dangerous patches of black ice in little-used lanes and has a deadly, astonishingly powerful effect on field walls.

Rain, driven into a wall by wind, penetrates cracks in the stone. When the water freezes, it expands, and literally explodes the stone, shattering it into fragments and often causing whole walls to

collapse in ruins. **DUFF HART-DAVIS**

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The darling buds of December

Young trees, designer pots and those seasonal favourites, poinsettias: Anna Pavord chooses gifts for green-fingered friends

n shopping malls, Christmas starts with recordings of "The First Noel" and, in delicatessens, with the building of pyramids made from jars of mincemeat. In garden centres, Christmas is marked by the arrival of poinsettias. Of the £12m likely to be spent on house plants between now and Christmas, poinsettias will claim the lion's share.

I write about them from duty rather than love. There is a built-in obsolescence about poinsettias; like balloons, they slowly deflate after Christmas, leaving you, by February, with a few red rags on top of bare stems. For years I supposed that I must be doing something wrong for them to drop their leaves in this way. Having seen them growing in the Windward Islands, I now realise that this unfortunate trait is natural.

In Dominica, poinsettias are used to make informal hedges 5ft to 6ft high. By January, they are coming to the end of their flowering and look gaunt and leafless. There, they are cut down to the ground in February to encourage new, leafy shoots. Here, you have to cheat to give them the sequence of 12-hour nights they need to prod them back into flower.

If you want to try, cut the plant back hard when flowering has finished. Allow it to dry out for three or four weeks, then begin to water again. This should encourage new shoots to sprout. Pull them off, together with a heel of the old wood, and throw the old plant away. Root the cuttings in pots of compost mixed with sand, then cover the pots with a polythene bag and keep them warm and moist. Pot on the cuttings as they grow, and pinch out the growing tips to make the plants bushy and compact. Commercial growers use dwarfing hormone sprays to keep their poinsettias in check.



If poinsettias are to keep their bloom in the New Year and not be just for Christmas they need temperatures of 55-60°F, and lots of light Garden Picture Library

plants with a black polythene bag for 12 hours every evening. This is meant to fool them that they are back in Mexico, where they belong, or Dominica, where they have become naturalised and where 12hour stretches of darkness are the norm. Continue this routine for a month, by which time flowering buds should have sprung into action. If not, garden centres have plenty of

fresh plants to give as presents. Bright red is the most popular colour, though apricot, pink and white versions are also available.

Around September, cover the Expect to pay £4 for a smallish red poinsettia, and £7 for one that will make a decent present. The pale varieties cost up to £7.95 for a pink plant with bracts edged in cream.

When buying, check the condition of the small, bead-like flowers in the centre of the heads. The red (or pink) bracts are not true flowers, but specialised leaves. The true flowers are yellowish, and in the freshest plants will be unopened. Do not buy plants that have been standing out on stalls and pavements. All house plants hate chill winds but poinsettias are particularly fussy, and like pots, glazed in dark green, a golden

to be cosseted in temperatures of 55-60°F. Give them plenty of light.

Now for some ideas for Christmas presents I really fancy: pots, plants and surprises. Surprises are best. I've sometimes complained about having three fashion victims as daughters, but this worked in my favour when they bought me a pashmina shawl of staggering softness and extravagance. Bajra pashminas for off-duty gardeners come in 80 different colours, and are available by

mail order for £195 from Pickett. Catriona McLean imports garden honey colour, straw, and deep blue, from the St Jean De Fos pottery, high up in the Hérault valley, near Montpellier in France. They are rugged and classic, simple urn shapes with pastry twists of decoration. The biggest are 80cm across, the medium 60cm, the smallest 37cm. The glazes have an attractive, aged look, which comes expensive. Expect to

or direct from Catriona McLean. Nomad Pots is the brainchild of Jonathan Simon, who is writing a film starring a bath that belonged to Stephenson fills pots and baskets to

pay £170 to £430 at the General Trad-

ing Company or Clifton Nurseries,

Rudolf Nureyev. This is irrelevant to his role as pot provider, but may ex-plain why there's only an answering machine on the end of his phone line. He imports hand-thrown terracotta pots from North Africa and the Sah-London and the home counties. Use these pots as decoration only. They have narrow necks, having originally been made as storage

or four-handled pots, 2ft high and The garden designer Fiona

jars, and may not be frost-proof. Two-

order, for custom-made presents. You can also order a Mediterranean herb collection - four aromatic herbs packed in a willow basket - for £30 including delivery, and she does Winter Berry, Frosted Silver and Winter Gold arrangements. Gift baskets are dispatched to arrive whenever you want, but Christmas orders must be in by 21 December.

From Neal's Yard you can order a gardener's box of goodies: bath oil made from seaweed and arnica. warming oil made from ginger and juniper to massage into chilly knees. hand-made soap scented with rosemary, and elderflower hand softener to banish sandpaper skin. This set costs £24.95, plus £2.50 p&p.

Trees Direct describes the business Diana Beamish runs from Ludlow in Shropshire. Young trees are sent as a florist might send a bunch of flowers, beautifully packed, and with a message. Choose from Christmas trees, blue spruces, Scots pines, Italian alders, silver birches, flowering thorns, Norway maples, crab apples, bird cherries, English oaks, rowans, small-leaved limes and eucalyptus. Do some homework first, though; alders like damp, and blue spruces, Norway maples and oaks will grow enormous. For small gardens, restrict your choice to the thorn, the crab apple or the rowan.

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E WEEKEND REVIEW

GARDENING/19

A garden of pure follies

There isn't a staff hermit any more at Painshill Park in Surrey, but the grotto has been gloriously restored. It's perfect for a winter visit. By Patricia Cleveland-Peck

्याची का क्षेत्र विकास time of year, but in winter the superb quality of the design is revealed and this year there is a grassy oval at the start of the something very special happening in the grotto.

Painshill was created by Charles Hamilton in 1738, and soon became one of the most visited landscape gardens in the country. Hamilton was not a particularly wealthy man, nor was the site particularly prepossessing; by 18th-century stan-dards it was not even large. Nevertheless, by improvement of the sandy soil and by his clever design, Hamilton managed to create a magnificent garden.

The visitor, then as now, embarked on a walking circuit that took a couple of hours, almost as though attending a theatrical performance the follies and temples, woods, hills
 and water would appear and disappear on the journey like characters in a play, always with that tantalising element of surprise. "Pray follow me to Mr Hamilton's," wrote Elizabeth Montagu in 1755. "I must tell you it beggars all description, the art of hiding art is here in such sweet perfection that Mr Hamilton cheats himself of praise."

Hamilton was, first and foremost, a plantsman, and the ground was "dressed and clumped with flowering shrubs, sweet trees and flowers". Among the trees, Hamilton's pines ere admired by his friend Walpole and his firs by Carl von Linne. In fact, more than a hundred of his original specimens still remain, including the largest cedar of Lebanon in the country, now some 32ft in girth.

The miracle is that, more than a

tudded with a series of experience Painshill almost as on to the lake, allowing the light to you ever onwards. It is admirable Painshill Park Trust a magical place at any must be one of the most authentic ever undertaken.

The amphitheatre, for example, circuit, has been surrounded by tiered ranks of evergreens that would have been available in Hamilton's day. Beyond, past an avenue of dark trees, is the little Gothic temple from which there is a totally unexpected view of the lake, with the Chinese bridge crossing on to Grotto Island. In keeping with the 18thcentury precept, "lose the object and

'I must tell you it beggars all description. The art of hiding art here is such sweet perfection'

draw nigh obliquely", the route there is indirect, taking you down the side of the hill and across a grassy peninsula. This area is planted with exotic shrubs, many of which were early introductions from America.

Having reached the grotto, a spacious, limestone-clad cavern approached by a narrow tunnel, the visitor cannot fail to be amazed. By 1948 the original roof had fallen in but, although the restoration is still incomplete, the roof has now been made safe and part of the interior is once again hung with the crystalline stalactites that, it was claimed in 1791, "rendered it so brilliant that it seems a true Fairy quarter of a century later, we can Grotto". The cavern opens directly

follies and temples. Hamilton intended, for the garden filter in. and, appropriately, it is Painshill Park beckons restoration - started in 1987 by the here, for a few days during the Christmas holidays, that children will find Santa Claus and his wellfilled sack of toys.

Adults will probably be more intrigued by the restoration technique: a wooden cone forms the base for each stalactite, to which individual crystals of gypsum, calcite, quartz and fluorite have been glued by hand. It is tedious and expensive work, which has temporarily ground to a halt because of lack of funds. But eventually the grotto's floor will be covered with sand and cockleshells and the extensive water features will be restored.

The atmosphere changes from grotesque to melancholy as you approach the next folly on the circuit. a ruined Roman mausoleum - planted round with yews to evoke a mood of gloom and remind us that earthly pleasures fade. Not so the next structure, the recently restored Turkish tent, which commands a panoramic view (said to have been Hamilton's favourite) over the lake. It would be the perfect place - and can be hired out - for a champagne picnic, with its brick structure draped with heavy-duty blue-andwhite canvas and finished with a dashing metal topknot.

Much is still to do. There are plans to replace the five-arch bridge; the now vanished temple of Bacchus will one day reappear, as will the boat house, the bath house and the hermitage (Hamilton's hermit was promised the then enormous sum of 700 gumeas if he succeeded in remaining for seven years in silence, but within three weeks he was found drunk in the local inn). But even without these attractions, there is still plenty more to see.

The Gothic tower beyond the



The Gothic tower was the first folly to be restored in Painshill Park

Elysian plain and alpine meadows was the first folly to be restored: Hamilton's vineyard, from which he produced sparkling wine said to equal champagne, has been replanted and the ruined abbey, an eyecatcher originally built to disguise the site of Hamilton's commercially disastrous venture into brick-

making, has been reinstated.

It was a sad fact that Hamilton was a poor businessman. In order to "make a pretty Landskip of his possession" he was forever begging and borrowing money from his friends. Eventually enormous debts forced him to sell up and he moved to Bath where, as a poor but jaunty old man, he could be found working on other people's gardens. His spirit, places as space is limited

however, resides at Painshill, at peace in the knowledge that his beloved place is in safe hands.

Painshill Park is at Portsmouth Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1JE (01932 868113). Santa Claus will be in the grotto this weekend and next, from 11am to 3pm. Book

CUTTINGS

NEWS FROM THE GARDENER'S WORLD

HOW EXHAUSTING it would be to live in a country where the seasons never allowed you the chance to draw breath in the garden. There's plenty to do out there, of course - tying in climbers. pruning roses, lifting cannas and packing their tubers away in damp compost - but winter gives a gardener time to dream. At this stage, the present year's disasters are becoming hazy but the possibility of triumph in 1999 is undimmed. You need a catalyst, though, to get yourself thinking about ways of changing the layout of the garden or waking up the planting. Gardens for Living by David Stevens (Frances Lincoln, £12.99) is a good browsing book, with a useful chapter on creating the framework of a garden. David Stevens treats the garden as a room, with walls, a floor and ceiling, all to be tended in different ways. Walls of rammed earth, diagonal slatted screens, honeycomb brick and bleached boards show Stevens's strong feeling for texture, and he likes plants, too – not ali garden designers do.

THE ROYAL Horticultural Society will be holding its Christmas flower show next Tuesday and Wednesday at the New Hall, Greycoat Street, London SW1. Plant hunters D'Arcy and Everest will be building a Christmas tree from poinsettias (you can't escape them) in all shades from pale pink to deep red. Ingwersen's are showing masses of azaleas, cyclamen and Christmas cacti, while Matthewman's Went Valley Nursery will scent the hall with mahonia.

Highdown Nursery is bringing a range of culinary herbs to the show, which is open Tuesday 11am-7pm admission £5) and Wednesday 10am-5pm (admission £3). All stallholders will have plants and sundries for sale. ANNA PAVORD

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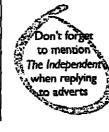
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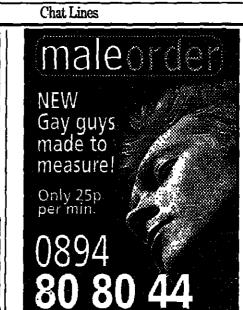
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INDEPENDENT ADVICE FOR THE INDEPENDENT TRAVELLER:
FROM THE ONLY NATIONAL NEWSPAPER TRAVEL SECTION THAT REFUSES FREE TRIPS

Something idyllic for the weekend?

Barbados may be on the other side of the Atlantic but it is still only a short hop away – and has become the most immediately accessible Caribbean hot spot. **Hamish McRae** takes a perfect short break, swimming among the turtles and dancing to steel bands

atwick nil, Barbados 26. The difference in degrees Celsius alone makes the whole outrageous exercise worthwhile. Barbados is the ultimate glam spot for a winter weekend. It is, for a start, the only place aside from New York which has a scheduled London service by Concorde. But there are plenty of other options that also make Barbados the most immediately accessible Caribbean destination. You simply take a non-stop flight from London and a half-hour taxi-ride later you are greeted with a vast range of hotels, every water sport from scuba to para-gliding on tap, gorgeous seafood restaurants, and unlike some other islands in the region, courteous and hassle-free treatment of visitors.

As people familiar with the Caribbean know, the key thing to understand about the West Indies is that every island is different. There are big ones and tiny ones; English-speaking, French-speaking and Spanish-speaking; mountainous ones and flat ones; developed and undeveloped; calm and frenetic.

From the point of view of the visitor, Barbados is something of a compromise. It is small (22 miles by 14

Within a few hours you can snorkel to a sunken wreck, wander round the ruins of a sugar plantation and eat a seafood buffet

miles) without being tiny, it has both a rugged Atlantic coast and a calm Caribbean one; it has a strong English (or more accurately, Anglo-Celtic) ambience; it has a complete infrastructure for the tourist who wants just to lie on a beach, but also the cultural interest of its earlier incarnation as a sugar producer.

There are other places that could outbid Barbados for specific attractions: St Lucia and Barbuda have better diving, Trinidad has greater cultural diversity, while if you want to get away from it all you need to do a Branson and go to somewhere like Necker. But nowhere else is there so much variety in such a tight compass – which makes it ideal for the long weekend.

I should confess that my own long weekend last month arose because my spouse was giving a speech there. Since I had a lot of spare Air Miles I tagged along too. As a result of that task, we had the privilege of meeting a number of government ministers as well as leading bankers and industrialists - plus the help of a thoughtful local guide. We also met a number of returnees - people who had spent much of their life in Britain and had moved back to Barbados – and learnt about their perspective on the country. So from the point of view of the journalist, it was a wonderfully interesting experience: for a few hours we saw the world through Caribbean eyes.

But thanks to its variety, the place works very well at a pure tourist level too. I know nowhere else in the world where you can, within



Bathsheba beach on the Atlantic coast of Barbados is a surfers' paradise in contrast to the calmer, western side of the island which is favoured by divers

Corbis

the space of three or four hours: snorkel down to a sunken wreck, swim with some turtles, wander round the ruins of an abandoned sugar plantation, eat a gorgeous seafood buffet – and dance to a steel band under a tropical moon. Bliss.

Being in Barbados is also a good history lesson. Walk round an abandoned plantation house and you catch a feeling for the way in which the Caribbean sugar industry brought extraordinary wealth to a few British families, together with the sad realisation of the human misery involved in the generation of that wealth. It is good to be aware of what the tiny huts that the slaves lived in look like, for many of these are still standing, over a century and a half after slavery was abolished.

The abandoned plantation huts make an extraordinary contrast to the grand new houses of the successful local entrepreneurs round the corner

e corner.
So you can combine a weekend of

pure pleasure with a little education about the country's past, and – in the booming new offices, fast-food outlets and supermarkets a glimpse of its economic future too.

A practical weekend? You really do need three days and four - which we had - is better. But with only three days (and the regular subsonic flights) you can still do it. Here's how.

On Saturday morning, you catch the 0955 BA flight from Gatwick and, with the four-hour time difference, be in your hotel by 4pm. (The Concorde crowd, meanwhile, arrived in time for a late breakfast.) You then follow the trick of staying as far as possible on British time, so it is early supper and bed. You are up with a cup of tea at 5.30 and back in the sea with the flying fish by 6am.

to to Monday are ahead of you. You can have two complete days doing whatever before turning up at the airport on the Monday evening for the flight back. The next trick is to treat Miles) it is only a slightly ou thing to do. No, come to the it is not out-rageous at all cinating, and it is gorgeous be warned: I shall be back so the said of back. The next trick is to treat with you again very soon.

yourself to business class coming home; on Air Miles, Club World "costs" only twice as much as economy, compared with a tenfold difference for paid tickets. So you sleep all night, and seven hours later – at 7am – you are at Gatwick, heading with the commuters back to the office.

A bit tough to go so far for such a short time? Well, not if you stay on GMT, refuse all the food they offer you on the plane on the way back, and instead use the time to sleep. A bit extravagant? Well, yes, a bit. But Barbados itself is not particularly expensive and the shortness of the time there makes the experience all the more memorable: you use every minute. So provided you can get a good deal on the flight (or use Air Miles) it is only a slightly outrageous thing to do. No, come to think of it, it is not out-rageous at all. It is fascinating, and it is gorgeous. Turtles, be warned: I shall be back swimming

Subsonic flights:

222111) flies
daily from
Gatwick and,
on Sundays, from Heathrow.
British West Indian Airways
(0181-577 1100) flies from
Heathrow on Mondays,
Thursdays and Saturdays. Virg
Atlantic (01293 747747) flies on

Airways (0345

Heathrow on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Virgin Atlantic (01293 747747) flies on the same days from Gatwick. It follows that all three airlines can offer the three-day trip that Hamish McRae took.

For travel early next year, going outbound in economy and back in business class, the fare on BA is £1,627; BWIA has a fare

FACT FILE

of £1,653. On Virgin, using regular economy outbound and premium economy inbound, the fare is £1,110. In this instance, we have been unable to improve on these deals by going through discount agents.

Air Miles: The economy out, business back arrangement

"costs" 12,000 Air Miles. If you are able to wait until 11 April, you would "pay" only 6,750. Call 0990 511806.

Supersonic: British Airways (0345 222111) files on Saturdays

(0345 222111) flies on Saturdays only from Heathrow for a fare of £6,138 return. More information: Barbados Tourism Authority, 263 Tottenham Court Road, London

WIP 9AA (0171-636 9448)



No frills, no flexibility, and no flight to Amsterdam

A MAGNIFICENT mansion set in "Capability" Brown gardens, boasting an exquisite collection of imperial Russian art, and, in a handsome Victorian venue, the finest display of hats in the country. Luton Hoo (now sadly closed to the public) and the civic museum are just a couple of the appealing aspects of Luton, but most of us go to the Bedfordshire town for a more prosaic purpose to take advantage of the cheap air fares that were first offered to the public three years ago by easyJet and Debonair.

easy, et and beronain.

The Independent's policy of refusing free flights means that writers for these pages spend a (thankfully) small fortune on these no-frills airlines. But not everything runs smoothly at the cut-price hub, Luton airport.

Imagine: you are a passenger on board an easyJet plane that has just arrived at Luton from Inverness. You have booked and paid for a seat on a connecting easyJet flight to Amsterdam. You had planned to meet a friend in the terminal at Luton and travel on together to Holland. One small problem: your plane from

Inverness touches down late, after the connecting flight is due to depart. But you learn from a crew member that the aircraft next to which your plane has parked is the Amsterdam jet, itself running late. The remedy seems obvious: a simple switch from plane A to plane B.

That was the solution that our contributor Margaret Campbell came up with when she found herself aboard the delayed flight from Inverness. But instead of letting her step from one plane to the other, the no-frills airline insisted that she proceed through arrivals and thereby miss (a) the flight to Amsterdam, and (b) her prospective travelling companion Kevin, who was on it.

"That was easyJet's last flight of the day to Amsterdam," says Ms Campbell. "The airline refused to book me on another airline to get me there, or indeed to anywhere near my ultimate destination of Strasbourg. The airline declined to pay for a hotel for the night. Instead I was offered, and reluctantly accepted, a flight to Nice. During the course of an international phone

call later that evening, I learnt that as soon as Kevin realised the flight was running late, he started asking easyJet employees to contact the flight from Inverness, to try to get me on to the Amsterdam flight as planned (and paid for). He saw the plane arrive, and the passengers walk off. His plane had not yet started moving out to the runway, but he kept being

told there was no way they could contact my flight."

The airline says "Tarmac transfers", where you walk from one plane to another, are not permitted in the UK. They are in the US, where I once made a connection from a heavily delayed Northwest Airlines flight

apron in Boston.

But easyJet eventually offered
Ms Campbell a one-way flight to
compensate for the extra
expense she had incurred.

by being whisked across the

MY COLLEAGUE Tobias Jones had an altercation with the same company. "A fan of easyJet, I phoned to book a ticket to Parma. Parma, note, in northern



SIMON CALDER

Stansted has sent out a classic piece of non-service: a timetable that omits flight times

Italy. I asked the woman to spell it – not with an L – and to confirm that we were talking Italy, not Majorca. Call me paranoid, but I wanted to be sure. The confirmation duly arrived, booked, of course, to the wrong place. They don't even fly

After prising his £103 back from the airline, he finally sated his appetite for Parma ham with a flight to Bologna on Go. THAT FLIGHT departed from the self-styled "London Millennium" airport, more usually known as Stansted. Thanks to its no-frills rivals Go and Ryanair, the Essex facility has increased passenger numbers by one-third compared

with 12 months ago.
At this time of year, Stansted sends its loyal customers a flight timetable to help them make even more use of the airport.
One recipient was William

Read, of Stafford. He kindly sends it along, together with the covering letter that announces: "You will see for the first time this winter, we have omitted the actual flying times from the guide." Instead, the publication reveals only the days of the week and the contact numbers of the airlines. As Mr Read observes: "A classic piece of 'non-service': a timetable that omits flight times," Worse is to come. The letter also says that this is the last flight guide the airport will send out.

It then lists three ways of getting information: calling in at the airport's information desk, which is not necessarily

convenient for those, like Mr Read, who live in Staffordshire; checking the BAA website, which it turns out does not yet exist; or "by calling 0345 118 118 to enquire about flights".

Needing a flight to Venice in January, I dialled the number and got through to "Stansted First". Yes, there are two flights a day on Ryanair, and on the dates I wanted the fare would be a shade over £100. What about Go, I wondered? "They're direct-sell only," I was told, and I would have to call the BA no-frills airline to find out flight times and fares. I did, and found a fare of £30. Is Stansted trying to conceal the operations of one of its leading airlines?

"No," says Stansted's marketing director, David Field. "Stansted First" turns out to be an ordinary travel agent, which the airport pays to give out information. The agency can also sell tickets, but it earns no commission from Go flights. Even so, says Mr Field, callers should be told every option.

"We require the agency to give unbiased information about all our flights, as well as background information such as how to get to the airport." And, he says, passengers such as Mr Read can look forward to a new flight guide – which will, after a rethink, include the airlines' schedules.

LAST WEEK I mentioned the Qantas flight that circumvents the Australian government's rule banning smoking, by operating as a "code-share" with the Dubai-based airline, Emirates.

Dubai-based airline, Emirates.
As has already been pointed out here, though, Emirates boasts a mitigating feature: cameras fixed to the front and underside of its aircraft that give passengers a view of take-off and landing. Combined with the inflight music system, the

experience can be extraordinary.

The Boeing 777 accelerated along the runway at Changi airport in Singapore just as Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze" popped up on the audio channel. The captain's timing was perfect: the wheels left the ground at precisely the moment Hendrix yells: "'Scuse me while I kiss the sky."

هكذا من الاحل

The Independent 12 December 1998

nd?

The land that tourism forgot

a Gomera has it all - unspoilt landscapes, wild parties d farmers with their own strange language. You'd hardly elieve you're in the Canary Islands. By Linda Cookson

took a lot of persuading to go to La Gomera last winter. I have always been a bit snooty about the Canary Islands, basing my prejudice on horror snaps of unfin-high-rises and beaches staked

t sam by rows of human kipon their sun-beds. But when I vered that La Gomera has no national airport, no high-rises hed or otherwise), and few s to speak of, I was seduced forospect of sunshine in Janand decided to give it a whirl. is is how I came to spend last Year's Eve in the cheerful g port of Playa de Santiago on buth coast of the island, salsa ng in the courtyard of a glorramshackie local restaurant, opping grapes, Spanish-style, irun-up to midnight. Fireworks exploding all around us, and ical wine was getting better and r, the closer the hour got to mid-. La Gomera had definitely

ed up trumps. art of its attraction is the friends of the people. Because the d is comparatively undeveland so small (only about 15

meter), there's a genuine terestingly, there's quite a g Latin American influence. o the fact that La Gomera was topher Columbus's last port of efore arriving in America, and islanders now have family with Venezuela or Cuba. The ros certainly know how to

the key attraction is the endscination of the island itself. igh La Gomera is a wonderice for chilling out, for huxurvarmin of winter ine artid blue skies, blue seas plore at least part of the island

d their home base. variety of scenery across a small land mass is quite staggering - a product of the myriad micro-climates that prevail from area to area. A walker's paradise. the north has lush green valleys laden with date palms or given over to vineyards and fruit plantations (bananas are La Gomera's only

exported crop). In the drier south, you'll find virtual moonscapes of volcanic rock. Here, the barrenness of the valleys - or barrancos - and the steepness of the slopes have created the unique acoustic conditions that have led to the development of the island's famous whistling language,

At Valle Gran Rey, a spectacular cascade of cultivated terraces. studded with palm trees, spills down to the sea

El Silbo. Allegedly, this allows farmers to chat to each other over distances that can run into miles although I won't pretend to have personally witnessed the phenomenon in practice. The centre of the island is different again. Because La Gomera rises dramatically out of the sea - even the small settlements and narrow beaches that fringe the coastline butt almost immediately on to sheer cliffs - you'll find that any journey inland will take you higher and higher And, as you approach the misty mountains and silvery woodlands of Garajonay National Park, irdsong, even the laziest of dense woodland of rare laurisilya 's should be sure to hire a car and fabulous jungles of unique flora lets its hair down at least once a year, and fauna.

Most visitors to La Gomera stay

able than inland. Even though the island isn't really the obvious choice for a beach holiday, the best black sand beaches are at Valle Gran Rey on the west coast. This is La Gomera's most popular tourist vallev – a spectacular cascade of cultivated terraces, studded with palm trees, which spill down to the sea.

San Sebastian, the island's capital, is on the east coast and has two reasonable beaches, but is a bustling working port rather than a seaside resort. Playa de Santiago. south-coast host to our New Year revels, is much smaller, with a pebble beach, reputedly the best climate on the island and, for travellers reluctant to rough it, the convenience of a nearby luxury hotel.

Accommodation options on La Gomera are limited, with only three main hotels. There is a large, fairly standard hotel at Valle Gran Rey. and an attractive Parador at San Sebastian, furnished traditionally and with a pleasant garden, a courtyard and a swimming-pool. But the main and, almost unarguably, the best hotel on the island is the Jardin Tecina, a mini-village of low-level Canarian-style houses, set amid wonderful gardens on a clifftop overlooking Playa de Santiago.

If hotels are not your thing, you can rent an apartment or a cosu rurale. The apartments are mostly based on the coast (the Apartamentos Tapahuga at Playa de Santiago, which include a roof-top solarium and swimming-pool, are especially attractive) and the cosos rurales are all inland. Vallehermoso in the North and Alajero in the south are both convenient locations.

But wherever you choose to stay, since part of the delight of La Gomera is its colouriu that of tropical rainforest, with a ture, keep an eye out for local fiestas. Each of the main settlements and an exuberant annual carnival is held every February in San Sebasclose to the coast, where the tian-so brush up on your salsa techweather is sunnier and less change- niques, and go and investigate.



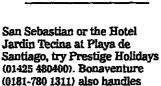
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rter flights: aes fly to erife. La iera can be

SARBADOS

hed by ferry 1 Los tianos, a 20-minute, £12 taxi from Tenerife airport. The r from Los Cristianos to San ıstian takes 75 minutes and s about £1.

els: A number of istream operators offer holicays in La Gomera.



Hotel Gran Rey. Self-catering: Casas Canarias (0171-485 4387) is the main specialist for self-catering lettings in La Gomera (although you'll need to make your own travel arrangements). Travellers' Way (01527 836791) also offers attractive, independent accommodation, as



Win a photo commission

and a Canon S5 SLR. 'The lependent' in ociation with anderlust' gazine wants ir best travel pictures

IS running out: you have 's to stake your claim as photographer of the year Saturday, these pages articles and photos desto inspire the traveller. We amateur photographers have a chance to dazzle. the past two years. The endent has teamed up ne travel magazine Won-L to offer prizes of high-/ camera equipment and tographic commission The Independent. Last he standard of entries istanding. This year, the



One of the successful entries from last year's competition

prizes are even better: we have brought in one of the best names in photography, Canon.

If you've captured a strong image from somewhere in the world, it could qualify for one of three categories: Urban Life, Rural Life and Wild Life.

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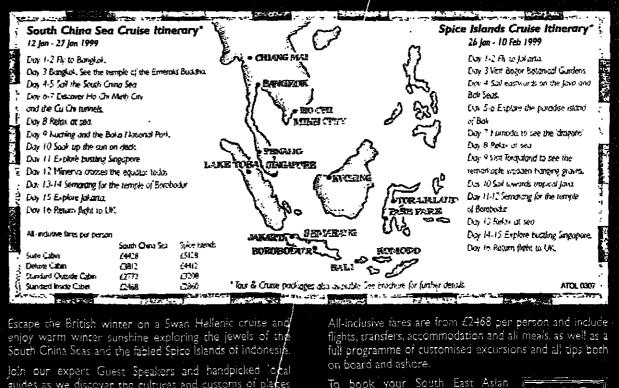
Canon will present the overall winner with an EOS5 SLR with 28-1351\$ lens - recommended retail price a total of £1,200 - while Bellingham will provide a photo rucksack and Ventile vest (RRP £280). The Independent will offer the winner

a UK-based photo commission. The two winners of the other categories will each receive an EOS IX with 24-85mm lens (RRP 6600) plus a Billingham

Photo Original Hadley bag. (RRP 287.50). Three runners-up will win a Canon Sure Shot 60 Zoom Kit worth £90, and a Billingham Small Hadley camera bag (RRP £75).

You must enter before the end of 1998 - send sae for an application form to: Wanderlust (Photo of the Year), PO Box 1832. Windsor SLA 6YP. Or find the form in the new fifthanniversary Wanderlust (£2.80).





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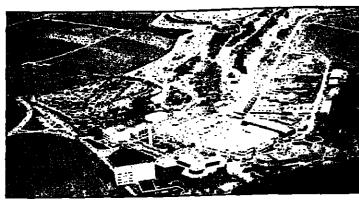
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Duncan and the dream factory

It was a boyhood fantasy come true - picking up a new Porsche from the production line in Germany. By Graham Hoyland



down to just the one Porsche in the household now. But, before you leap to any conclusions, Sarah's 17year-old Porsche 924 cost only £200 and, as a result of a bit of tinkering from me, it has just passed its 15th MOT test and its 200,000th mile.

I think that it was partly as a result of my droning on about the reliability of Porsches that my friend Duncan decided to buy one. Not for him a £200 one out of the free-ads new one, from the factory. Duncan. I should point out, is a successful fisherman who has been hauling langoustines out of the seas around northern Scotland for longer than he cares to remember.

Porsche 911 was justifiable. But at £65.000, could it really be worth 325 times more than Sarah's cherished old Porker? Here, surely, was a textbook example of the law of diminishing returns. Both vehicles had four wheels, could travel at the speed limit and even shared the same badge. I just had to sample the difference. Fortunately, Duncan wanted someone to help with the driving back from Germany, and so I was able to share the experience of buying a car costing the same as a decent family house in Scotland.

Porsche has an arrangement whereby you can pick up your new car from the factory in Stuttgart. Some 40 per cent of German owners do this. but hardly anyone from northern Scotland. The dealers in Aberdeen couldn't have been more encouraging and enthusiastic and fixed everything. At the company's expense, we were flown out business class and put up in a good hotel in the centre of Stuttgart, a pleasant city which seems to revolve around the car factories of Mercedes and Porsche.

First of all we went to the Mercedes museum, which is a fabulous place for anyone with a whiff of super-unleaded in their veins. Duncan and I spent our boyhoods tearing around the local farmer's fields in a succession of old jalopies, and so we gaped at the very first car in the world (looking like a cross between a lawnmower and a prami

and played what-would-you-takehome? I settled on a glorious naked aluminium racing car (they had sanded the paint off to get it under the weight limit). Duncan had already decided that the car he was taking home was to be a product of the other factory in Stuttgart.

The instructions had said to be there at 10am prompt. We turned up early and already a stream of yellow and black Porsches were leaving the factory gates like wasps from a hive. Their engines even sounded like wasps, and they were driven by paper; he was going to go and get a men who resembled Hagar the Horrible, all long blond hair and horns. Most of the cars seemed to be returning unscathed from their 20-mile test drive, but the sight did clear up one mystery for us. Duncan had been supposed to pick up the car As a well-earned toy, then, a new one month previously, but at the last minute he had been rung up to be told that the factory had "damaged" the 911 earmarked as his.

His response was sceptical, assuming that he had been bumped from the year-long waiting-list, but suddenly the story looked plausible: maybe it had been crashed. We asked on three separate occasions what exactly had happened to the original car, and we got three evasive replies. Porsche, they said, doesn't really like to talk about things like that. But it is the only manufacturer - they said - that road-tests every car it makes.

We had a look in the tiny museum and I was drawn to a lovely little silver 550, the racing Porsche that proved to be the nemesis of James Dean. There was a picture of the film star on the wall, but no mention was there mention of Dr Porsche's contract with Hitler for the design of a People's Car, the Volkswagen, which formed the basis of sub-

first Porsche sports car was built:



The Porsche factory in Stuttgart (top left) is not your average holiday destination but the drive home to Scotland in a new £65,000 car justified the trip

percolating by robot lifts down to the ground floor. Robots are everywhere. As we were led around the factory by the human guide, little robot trains swept past with a load of just-in-time components.

If even a tiny exhaust valve should fail to meet the right engine of his death in a car crash. Neither at the right minute, the whole line would grind to a halt at a minimum cost of £50,000.

Yet there is still a human element. As we stood to watch the first sequent Porsche cars. Some things manual operation after 100 yards of are too hard to explain in Stuttgart. robots, a large man took one of those There is a great feeling for rectangular-headed German hamtradition here. In the middle of the mers and started beating hell out of bustling industrial complex, there is a dashboard mounting. We felt like a large wooden shed where the applauding. And although there were large TV monitors counting they just won't pull it down to cre- down the seconds at each workperately needed; the assembly line pressure on the line. It was notable

they progressed down the line forwards instead of backwards; it was felt to be better for the workers' psychology that a Porsche should be

At the end of it all, our guide

I was drawn to a silver 550, the racing car that proved the nemesis of James Dean

talked about a forthcoming model. It would have a turbo, he explained. And the delay between pressing the accelerator and the turbo proate more space. And space is des- station, there was no feeling of ducing powerwas called "turbo-lag". The delay between the present 911 the way through France on those painted bodies are fed in at the top, were carefully turned around so that months was also called "turbo-lag". Where, we wondered, were all those go club class

at the row of uncomprehending faces. Gradually the appalling truth dawned upon us all. He had told a joke. A German joke. There were a few stifled gasps, and then we all walked out.

There was one more joke to come. I bought a key-fob for our Porsche from the boutique. But when we went to pick up Duncan's beautiful, gleaming silver 911, all that dangled from the ignition key was a piece of string Porsche string.

Was it all worth it? Yes, emphatically, yes. We drove back in a haze of boyhood stories. I got us lost two kilometres up the road. Duncan ran it up to 125mph on an unreit's run in, it should do 175mph. He let me drive at a steady 100mph all

British Airways supersonic

return fare between London

and New York has risen to a

thousand pounds off the cost

of breaking the speed of sound to Manhattan and back

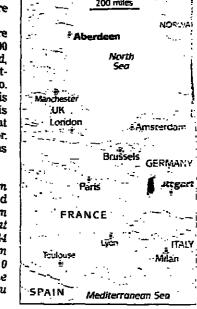
staggering £6.036. Yet you

can slice a couple of

He fell silent, and looked expectantly chaussée déformée signs that you used to see in France? These were the best roads in Europe.

That night, the two cars were parked outside our house, the £200 one and the £65,000 one. In the end, I learned that there can be no rational comparison between the two. The question of worth and value is too complex to be resolved in this way, and money is only worth what you are prepared to exchange it for. Let's just say that for 24 hours it was great being a pair of kids again.

You can fly to Stuttgart from Heathrow on British Airways and Lufthansa. or from Manchester on Lufthansa. Through the discount igeni namiuon iravei (1)171-349 3233). a flight from Heathrow on Lufthansa will cost £137.10 including tax. Or order a Parsche itself is on three floors and the that on the second floor the cars and the 911 available in a few wonderful swooping autoroutes. from your local dealer and then you



Trouble spots: Foreign Office advice on Russia "We strongly advise against travel to the Chechen Republic, Ingushetia, Dagestan, North Ossetia and to parts of Stavropol which border Chechnya, because of the unstable security situation. Kidnapping for financial gain is common. Westerners are particularly vulnerable. Those who travel to these parts of Russia despite this advice are taking

severe risks, and must

Embassy in Moscow to

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render assistance is severely limited. "Carry ID at all times. Due to the current financial problems in Russia we advise that visitors arrive with cash in US dollars. All dollar notes should be in pristine condition. Given exchange

fluctuations, we advise that only small amounts of dollars are changed at a time. "It is illegal to settle

accounts in foreign currency. Money should only be changed at banks and recognised exchange kiosks. It is an offence to change money from street traders. "Incidents of mugging,

sometimes violent, theft and pickpocketing can occur in some cities. Be vigilant and dress down. Be particularly wary in Moscow of groups of young children. Keep jewellery, watches and cameras out of sight. Use official taxis and do not share them with strangers.

When travelling by train, store valuables in the compartment under the bed/seat. Ensure the door is quite secure from the inside by tying it closed with wire or strong cord. Do not accept food or drink from strangers

SOMETHING TO DECLARE

NEWS FROM THE TRAVEL WORLD

as it may be drugged. There are media reports of armed violence in major cities. This violence is not directed against foreigners but is usually the result of violence between rival

criminal gangs."

is a boon for Rome True, When asked: "Where is Hadrian's Wall?" an 11-yearold may reply: "At the bottom of Hadrian's garden." When in Rome, the same child could demand in return: "Where did Hadrian get a drink and a bite to eat when his feet were killing him after having seen more classical monuments than at the House of Lords?"

(Z)

True or false: McDonald's

I doubt most of us could stomach ancient Roman fare like otter spieens and wolf nipples. But, in the Piazza della Rotunda, in front of the Pantheon you will notice that a new McDonald's has popped up on the other side of the piazza.

In Italy, that gastronomic garden of Eden, you could be forgiven for wanting to toss Ronald McDonald off Tiberius' Leap. But getting a drink and a seat to rest your feet can be a costly affair in Rome's street cafés: the table price can be four times the bar price. However, there is no need to resign yourself to a costly cappucino or skyhigh sambuca while you drink in the exterior of the

Pantheon: at McDonald's, a soft drink or cold beer comes in at just under £1. Hadrian didn't get around to building too many public toilets in Rome, so the loo facilities are

Art should be free for all, and while admiring the wonderful balance of form and space in this glorious piazza, getting watered and your city-weary feet rested is now a little closer to becoming free. JAMES HILL

also welcome.

Bargain of the week When the first US-bound Concorde took off from Heathrow 22 years ago, the fare was £431 return. By the end of 1998, the standard

 and get two nights in a hotel - if you book a short break and are prepared to travel via Paris.

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France has even more trouble than BA in filling seats on its daily service to JFK. The French airline is obliged to discount fares heavily by packaging them as part of weekend breaks to Manhattan. Before the end of March, Bridge Travel Service

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Day I Monday: HEATHROW TO WARSAW & KAZIMIERZ DOLNY, POLAND. You'll be met by our rep who'll accompany you to Kazimierz Dolny, arriving mid afternoon.

KAZIMIERZ DOLNY TO BIALYSTOK. After a morning in Kazimierz Dolny, one of Poland's prettiest towns, we move on to Bialystok, arriving there early evening.

Day 3 Wednesday:

BLALYSTOK. The town of Bialystok lies in the 'Green Lung' area of Poland, between three National Parks. An optional excursion will take you to nearby villages to watch locals produce their hand made arts and crafts (great souvenirs!) and then a horse and cart ride into one of the parks for a BBQ.

BIALYSTOK TO VILNIUS.

Travel continues through beautiful scenery to Lithuania's capital - Vilnius.

Day 5 Friday:

VILNIUS. Vilnius remains proudly Lithuanian, somehov managing to retain its heritage, culture and individuality extremely well. The old town is a gem, everywhere you look there's something interest see. A city tour (optional) will take in all of the mair places of interest.

VILNIUS TO RIGA, LATVIA.

Latvia's constant change in fortune, culminating with no less than 50 years of Soviet domination means that today, Latvians are almost a minority within their own country. However this Baltic state has kept its national identitiy and heritage. Latvians are warm, fun loving people, who love their music, folk culture and their locally produced beer, which is excellent.

Day 7-8 Sunday-Monday:

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Baltics. The very historic Old Town is where you'll find the street cases and restaurants and the 'New Town' is probably where you'll do most of your shopping. An optional excursion taking a drive through some of Latvia's most beautiful scenery en route to its "Little Switzerland" will also be available during your stay here.

LATVIA TO KAUNAS, LITHUANIA.

The tour continues, returning to Lithuania this time for a two night stay in Kaunas.

Day 10 Wednesday:

Overseas Travel

Kaunas, Lithuania's second city, is regarded by many to represent the true heart of the country. The long tree-lined boulevard houses most of the city's bars, cafes and shops and leads on to the Old Town and Square. A tour of the city (optional) will include Christ's Resurrection Church, the Old Town and Town Hall Square, Kaunas Castle and numerous museums.

> Day 11 Thursday: KAUNAS TO GIZYCKO.

Travel continues to Poland's Great Mazurian Lake District; a system of 'connecting' lakes covering some 200 miles takes this an area of outstanding natural

> Day 12 Friday: GIZYCKO TO WARSAW.

Departure for Poland's heroic capital, Warsaw.

Day 13 Saturday: WARSAW.

Learn about the active role Warsaw throughout Poland's extraordinary history. Visit the Old Quarter and Market Square, the castle - once a Royal Residence and now a museum - the 14th century St John's Cathedral and Lazienski Palace, Nozyk Synagogue and the Jewish Quarter (optional).

> Day 14 Sunday: WARSAW AND RETURN TO UK.

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DISCOVER UNDISCOVERED TERRAIN

IN SERRE CHEVALIER AND CHAMPOLUC

Good food, parties and flourishing love lives - Hadrian's Wall wasn't such a bad posting for centurions. By Guy de la Bedoyere

High jinks on the Roman frontier

ages of Victorian Britain is of the British army and its wives and children forging out an existence on the North-West Frontier. Perhaps if's no surprise that the Victorians admired the Romans second only to themselves, so it's appropriate that the Roman north-west frontier was here. Hadrian's Wall and its magnificent forts are some of the most splendid remnants of Roman rule in Britain, but there was far more to life than wind-blown strongholds and rain-soaked troops.

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The wall was built in the early 120s - AD that is - about 80 years after the Roman invasion, and over the next 280 years it staggered along being occasionally abandoned, reoccupied, and repaired

Although the Roman army had already been in the area for 40 years or more, there is not much known about warfare on the Wall, aside from occasional references in ancient Jources to barbarians crossing the frontier. Generations of troops idled their lives away up on the frontier, nearly all the garrison being auxiliaries, provincials recruited for their special fighting skills and kept in ethnic units.

The tragedy of archaeology is that so much daily ephemera gets lost through decay, but the fort of Vindolanda is an exception. Built originally in the late first century beside the Roman frontier road now called it overlies the wooden fort of Flavthe Stanegate, it was made of tim- ins Cerealis. The jewel in the crown ber and earth and constantly rebuilt. at Vindolanda is its astonishing muyound the year 103 the ninth cohort seum filled with the kind of perishready for transfer to another part of elsewhere. Leather shoes, clothes, the Roman world and the fort tents and wooden utensils cram archives were promptly stacked into a bonfire and burnt.

No one who knows northern England will be surprised to hear there was a downpour. The bonfire was put out and wind scattered the documents, written on ultra-thin sheets Aelius, the Roman bridge over the of wood, across the derelict fort. Over the years the documents were d under later forts and sealed in a waterlogged level but, fortunately for us, the dynamic excavation policy of Vindolanda's director. Robin Birley, has uncovered many

ne of the abiding im- world of Flavius Cerealis, the Bata vians' prefect, his family and his troops a generation before the Wall

world of frozen privation. Flavius's wife, Sulpicia Lepidina, received an invitation to a birthday party from her friend, Claudia Severa, wife of Aelius Brocchus, another commanding officer. She had had a slave or clerk write the invitation but added a note in her own hand, the earliest piece of female Latin handwriting known. Flavius himself was unlikely to care if his wife went off to a birthday party. He was probably out hunting and even wrote to Brocchus to scrounge some spare nets. Not that he needed to go hunting. The surviving documents now on display at the British Museum in London - list the foodstuffs available at Vindolanda as including garlic, venison, spices, olives, oysters, and even plums. Some of these goods came by

road from Catterick, then called Cataractonium. Octavius, a merchant, bleated in a letter that the roads were in such a rotten state that he didn't want to put his haulage animals at risk, but they weren't the only ones. A strength report of another cohort, this time the 752strong Tungrians, lists 15 sick, six wounded, and 10 suffering from eye inflammation.

The visible fort at Vindolanda is third- and fourth-century in date but Batavians was told to pack its bags ables that almost never turn up the display cases.

Vindolanda is not the only place to meet the people of Rome's furthest corner. In the middle of New-Tyne, is the Museum of Antiquities. In here are acres and acres of

stone inscriptions which at first sight look rather arid and are reminiscent of tedious school trips. Much the most memorable are the records of the individuals. Aulus Cluof these records, bringing to life the entius Habitus left an altar at the



'- NORTHUMBERLAND CUMBRIA CLEVELAND Catterick

Winter can be the most evocative, if not the most comfortable, time to visit Hadrian's Wall, which is one of the most splendid remnants of Roman rule in Britain

Palmyrene (he came from Syria) the age of 20, Numerianus splashed

castle, once itself a fort on Hadrian's temple of Mithras at Carrawburgh Wall and guardian of the Pons on the Wall. On it he made it clear that he was from Larinum in Italy, home of the great orator, politician and lawyer Cicero more than 200

> That little piece of one-upmanship is upstaged by the family tragedy of Aurelius Julianus the tribune, commanding at the fort of Birdoswald far to the west along the Wall. When, at

the age of a year and five days, his baby son Aurelius Concordius died, Aurelius Julianus commemorated him on a tombstone which has found its way to this museum.

Another personal tragedy lies across the river at South Shields. Like Vindolanda, this fort stood to the rear of the Wall and acted as another component of the huge frontier machine. Here Barates the

was more to the relationship than young man lounging on a couch. Just shire area, and had been a slave. ly conducted" Victor to his tomb. Barates bought her and freed her, then married her in one of the earliest interracial marriages known. Aged only 30, Regina died and Barates, bereft and distressed, invested in a magnificent tombstone. Regina sits in a deep wicker

we shall never know. We need hardly ask what Barates thought. No less captivated by the charms of the deceased was Numerianus, a Details on entrance to Vindolanda,

cavalryman based at South Shields.

and work-basket. Her face is gone,

brought his wife, Regina. There out on a tombstone depicting the Oddly, winter can be the most

evocative time to visit Hadrian's Wall even if it's not wise to stay out too long. But spare a while to browse in the museums and hear about it from the people who lived there. Perhaps it's all summed up by a single armchair with her jewellery box stone at Newcastle, found along the Wall. Its simple commemoration so whether she was beautiful or not of a lucky escape from the elements reads "FULGUR DIVO[RU]M" -"Lightning of the Gods".

or Chesterholm on 01434 344277. When his freedman, Victor, died at There is a 10 per cent discount for

Vindolanda letters are in the new Romano-British gallery of the meets the eye. Regina was a how close the two were will remain British Museum at Great Russell The Museum of Antiquities (0191-222 6000) at the University of Newcastle is open all year round from Monday to Saturday between 10am and 5pm and entrance is free. Easiest access is from the Haymarket Metro stop. The South Shields Museum (0191-454 4093) is free and is open all year round. South Shields Metro station is a 15- to 20-minute walk away.

English Heritage members. The

The writer is author of Hadrian's Wall: History and Guide' (Tempus 1998, £9.99) and he is presenting a series on Roman Britain. The next episode, on Hadrian's Wall, is on BBC2 on 18 December at 7.30pm.

Trains pass so close, your drink rocks gently in the glass

Three outstanding bars are to be found on one of Britain's busiest railway lines. By Stephen O'Loughlin

EVER MINDFUL of drink driving, it's becoming difficult to visit any pubs issiond walking distance of home. Unless, that is, you live on the of Manchester, might be home to of hot "black peas" seasoned with Transpennine railway line, where you can travel by train to three of the finest bars in the North. They are located on platforms at Stalybridge, tions on the Leeds-to-Manchester line. On a winter's afternoon all three, original or restored, offer the warm glow of a real fire, and an appropriate setting for a remake of

Stalybridge, on the eastern edge log fire and the house speciality. Pots drink rocks gently in its glass.

pubs boasting the shortest (The Q Inn) and longest (The Old 13th Cheshire Astley Volunteer Rifleman Corps Inn) pub names in Britain. But Huddersfield and Dewsbury sta- a traveller alighting at platform one need walk no more than a few paces to the original 1885 Victorian buffet bar. It's the place where Jack Judge penned "It's a Long Way to Tipper-

Inside the bar there is a crackling

vinegar (40p) can be washed down with an array of winter ales, including Grainstone's Winter Oats and Hanby's Black Magic Mild. Bottled beers include Chimay Blue Cap at £3 a bottle, strawberry-flavoured beer from Belgium, and wheat beer from Germany. For teetotallers there is that old favourite of the Temperance movement, hot Vimto. Outside, the trains pass so close, your

express, the next stop is Huddersfield. The Head of Steam pub and restaurant, former derelict station offices on platform one, caught the eye of an imaginative developer whose train happened to stop outside its musty windows. Now it is four large rooms replete with railway memorabilia and log fires. The food is excellent value - a threecourse Sunday lunch for £3.75, with ··· a veggie option available. Sit at one

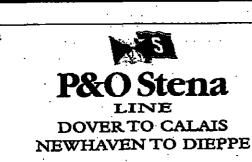
Stepping onto the Leeds-bound of the tables on the platform and you can eat and watch the trains go by Two or three new real ales are of-

fered daily. On the day I visited they included Barnsley Brewery's Marples Takes a Dive the being the goalie of nearby cup heroes Emley); and Bank's & Taylor's Sheffield Mild. Don't catch your train before you step outside and view the magnificent Corinthian station entrance. More stately home than station, it an extensive, even ambitious menu, makes Huddersfield "one of the which includes chicken in lime and

best early railway stations in England" (Nikolaus Peysner).

On to Dewsbury, birthplace of Betty Boothroyd. Where the West Riding "licensed refreshment rooms" offer a cosy mix of coal fire and the day's newspapers, plus a selection of real ales from Bateman's, Maxton Moor, and the local Church End Brewery. The West Riding also boasts a separate dining room and

cranberry sauce with a generous rice and salad garnish for £3.50. All three station bars also offer music and quizzes. Stalybridge has folk on Saturday; Huddersfield blues on Sunday; and jazz on Wednesday. Dewsbury has jazz on Thursday. A ticket between all three stations costs £7.10, and takes 30 minutes for the picturesque 25-mile journey through the Tame and Coine valleys. The 24-bour train service to Manchester Airport means that these are perhaps the only three pubs in England where you can never miss



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express train and fly on Saturday morning from Cairo to London Heathrow with British Airways. **DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES**

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THE BOYS (18) Director: Rowan Woods Starring: David Wenham, Toni Collette,

Lynette Curran Out of jail after serving a sentence for GBH, oldest "boy" Brett Sprague (Wenham) moves back into his mum's drab suburban home, terrorises his girlfriend (Collette), and turns his younger brothers into petty henchmen. Adapted from Gordon Graham's acclaimed stage-play, The Boys spotlights the flipside of life Down Under, with a stark social-realist drama circling gracefully around a horrific crime. Limited Release

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG) Director: Martin Campbell

Starring: Antonio Banderas, Anthony Hopkins, Catherine Zeta Jones

Martin "GoldenEye" Campbell's gaudy swashbuckler gallops through 19th-century California in the company of Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A bite-sized history lesson on West Coast politics jostles for purchase amid colourful duels and clattering action setpieces. Anthony Hopkins and Catherine Zeta Jones bring a whiff of the Limited Release valleys to their father-and-daughter co-star slots. Countrywide

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

Director: Nancy Meckler Starring: Lindsay Lohan, Natasha Richardson The Parent Trop catches Disney re-heating its 1961 Hayley Mills heartwarmer into a spry caper starring Lohan as the separated-at-birth twin sisters (one British, one American) determined to get their parents (Richardson, Dennis Quaid) back together. It's a film of bright colours and neat comedy. But a thick layer of syrup covers every inch. Countrywide

PLAYING GOD (18) Director: Andy Wilson

Starring: David Duchovny, Timothy Hutton Cracker director Wilson suffers a rude lesson in Hollywood politics with this glossy but garbled thriller about a junkie doctor (David Duchovny) mixed up with a gang of counterfeiters headed by a hammy Tim Hutton. Playing God steers an illdisciplined course, swerving from grisly violence to po-faced character study (Duchovny wants his

licence back) to surrealistic comedy (an encounter

with a bunch of saintly bikers).

Nathaniel Hulley

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE THREE BEST FILMS



Antz (PG)

Computer-animated comedy (left), voiced by a stellar cast, stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Good fun, and Allen's best work in a while.

Out of Sight (15)

Director Steven Soderbergh's tale of love on opposite sides of the law knocks spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez the romantic pairing of the cinematic year.

My Name is Joe (15)

Ken Loach's drama tells the tale of Joe (Peter Mulian), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life and his new. My Name is Joe brilliantly spotlights the groping hopes of a Britain caught below the poverty line.

THE THREE BEST PLAYS

Angela Carter Cinderella Lyric, Hammersmith

A feast of inspired silliness and visual magic (right), this has lashings of drag and double entendres, plus the best mice on a West End stage. To 9 Jan

Martin Guerre West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

Gifted young Irish director Conall Morrison stages a second reworking of the troubled Boubil/Schonberg musical. Will it be third time lucky? To 13 Feb

The Boy Who Fell Into a Book Stephen Joseph Theatre.

Scarborough Typically witty and ingenious concept from Alan Ayckbourn - here wearing his children's dramatist hat. To 9 Jan

GENERAL RELEASE

ANTZ (PG)

See The Independent Recommends, above.

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless "sheep-pig" into the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour for a bunch of waifs. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak fairy-tale.

BLADE (18)

A techno soundtrack bumps and grinds behind this arcade-game thriller about a New York vampire-killer triumphing over cruelty. tackling a power-crazed bloodsucker.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG)

Less a dance, more of a trudge, O'Connor's Irelandset saga pinpoints the ebb and flow of an eccentric Catholic family in deepest Donegal. What gives it backbone is Meryl Streep's regal performance as the brood's eldest sister, plus the ever-watchable Michael Gambon as the homecoming brother.

DEAD MAN'S CURVE(15)

awards straight-A grades to room-mates of suicides. Though not as deliciously nasty as the cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic Scream films, Dead Man's Curve delivers a assignment. The one stand-out is actor Johnny respectable quota of shocks.

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bondit Queen is the IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U) story of a female figurehead struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence

THE END OF VIOLENCE (15)

Wim Wenders is right back on form with this LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING stylish and intelligent techno-noir about a Nasa plot to "end violence as we know it" through mass surveillance.

THE EXORCIST (25TH ANNIVERSARY

RERELEASE) (18)

The Exorcist is a creature conditioned by rumour and hearsay. Pull it into the light, though, and All the students at writer-director Dan Rosen's Friedkin's seminal horror is still terrifying. The chill nameless American college are trying to butcher each atmosphere clings to the skin throughout.

other, led into temptation by a regulation which FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Ralph Steadman

Depp - who brings Hunter S Thompson into

bald-headed, pigeon-toed life.

Capra's festive bauble is more complex than it is given credit for, with James Stewart's everyman shown how dreary his hometown would have been had he never been born, before returning merrily to his Job-like existence.

BARRELS (18)

Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional. Young Eddy, who comes unstuck in a high-stakes card game, falls into the former category; but Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, is a dangerous old school pro.

MULAN (I)

heroine who does not want to tend a man or pet RONIN (15) woodland animals; a strong father/daughter relationship; honour and nobility; and, of course, crossdressing. It's also one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever been made.

MY NAME IS JOE (15) See The Independent Recommends, above.

THE NEGOTIATOR (15) Samuel L Jackson and Kevin Spacey go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama. The script has a predilection for lunk-headed swearing that sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate.

rhetorical performers. OUT OF SIGHT (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above.

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY (U)

Sublime cinema. It's a fast-talking romantic comedy but there's nothing silly or trivial about it. George Cukor's movie has a strange and melancholy heart and Katharine Hepburn's Disney's animated feature has it all: a pro-active heiress sheds real tears.

John Frankenheimer's 40 years as a feature director lend an air of resignation to his latest movie, a tired espionage thriller about a gang of mercenaries. Thrillan-hour stuff, as dull as ditchwater.

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (15)

Ben Stiller, Cameron Diaz, Matt Dillon and Lee Evans star in this film from Peter and Bobby Farrelly. However, the film is basically a romantic comedy of the kind that Hollywood produces on a regular basis.

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)

Peter Weir's comedy about a man (played by Jim Carrey) who discovers that his life has been televised since birth. The film is very funny, due more to the cleverness of the script than to its star's presence.

VELVET GOLDMINE (18) Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys Myers) is a Bowieesque idol; Curt Wild (Ewan McGregor) is a US rocker. Their story is unravelled by a journalist (Christian Bale) years after the death of Slade. Director Todd Haynes has made a film which is full of a real sense of the infinite possibilities of cinema.# .

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ABERDEEN ABERDEEN
ODEON (08705-050007): The Mask Of
Zorro (PG): Babe: Pig in The City (U):
The Parent Trap (PG): There's Something
About Mary (15): Antz (PG): Out Of
Sight (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U):
Mulan (U): Rush Hour (15)

MAC (0121-440 3838); A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries (15); Dancing At Lughnasa (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); Babe: Pig In ine City (U): Out Or Signt (15); Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18):
Godzilla (PG): Rush Hour (15): Antz (PG):
Mulan (U): Blade (18): Ronin (15):
Small Soldiers (PG): The Prince Of Egypt
(U): The Negodator (15): Shooting
Fish (12): The Parent Trap (PG): The
Mask Of Zorra (PG) Mask Of Zorro (PG)

ARCADIAN CENTRE VIRGIN (054) ARCADIAN CENTRE VIRGIN (U541-555177; Antz (PG); Out Of Sight (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG); Ronin (15): The Par-ent Trap (PG); Blade (18); The Nego-tiator (15): Babe: Pig in The City (U)

GREAT PARK VIRGIN (0121-4530465): GREAT PARK VIRGIN (0121-4530465);
Out Of Sight (15): Ronin (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Negotiator (15):
Babe: Pig in The City (U): Dr Dollttle
(PG): There's Something About Mary
(15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); The Truman Show (PG): Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15): Mulan (U): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): The Mask Of Zor-ro (PG): Blade (18): Saving Private Ryan (15); Anastasia (U): Small Soldiers (PG)

VIRGIN MEGAPLEX (0870-907 0714): VIRGIN MEGAPLEX (0870-907 0714); Out Of Sight (15); The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC); Antz (PG); Blade (18); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in The City (U); Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Rush Hour (15); Ronin (15); Mulan (U); Small Soldlers (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); The Negotlator (15); The Mask Of Zor-ro (PG): The Exercist (25th Anniversary

WARNER VILLAGE (01204 669988); Babe: Pig In The City (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Small Soldlers (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Land Girts (12); or egypt (U); Small Soddlers (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Land Girls (12); Antz (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); 101 Dalmatlans (U); The Negotlator (15); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15); Change Gase (NG); The Stock of The Control (15); Change Gase (NG); The Change (NG) (15); China Gate (NC): The Parent Trap (PG): Out Of Sight (15): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); There's Something About Mary (15); Blade (18); Ronin (15); Saving Private Ryan (15)

CHESTER ODEON (01244-343216); Out Of Sight (15); Rush Hour (15); Babe: Pig in The City (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Antz (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); 101 Dalmatians (U): Small Soldiers (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U)

VIRGIN (0541-555 158); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Antz (PG); Babe: Plg In The City (U); Dr Dolittle (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Blade (18); Out Of Sight (15)

UCI (090-888990); The Parent Trap (PG); Antz (PG); Kudrat (NC); Babe (U); Jingle All The Way (PG); Blade (18); Rush Hour (15); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Ronin (15); Out Of Sight (15); The Negotiator (15); There's Something About Mary (15); My Name is Joe (15)

UCI 10 (0990-888990): Small Soldiers (PG); Dr Dolittle (PG); Antz (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Rush Hour (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Ronin (15); de (18); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Oui Of Sight (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); Brassed Off (15); The Negotiator (15): The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC): Mulan (U): There's Something About Mary (15): Babe: Pig in The City (U)

EDINBURGH

ABC FILM CENTRE (0131-228 1638); Dr Dolittle (PG): Antz (PG); Babe: Pig In The City (U): Ronin (15): Out Of Sight (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Parent Trap (PG)

ABC WESTER HAILES (0131-442 2200): Blade (18): Small Soldiers (PG): Rush Hour (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Out Of Sight (15): There's Something About Mary (15): Rorin (15): Babe: Pig In The City (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Antz (PG): The Negotiator (15): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG)

CAMEO (0131-228 4141); Elizabeth (15); it's A Wonderful Life (U); The Philadelphia Story (U); The Boys (18): The Wizard Of Oz (U); LA. Confidential (18); Zero Effect (15); Jackie Brown (15): Touch Of Ewil (12); Lock, Stock & Two Smolding Bar-

rels (18); My Name Is Joe (15) DOMINION (0131-447 4771); Elizabeth (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In

The City (U) ODEON (08705-050007): Antz (PG): Dr Dolittle (PG): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Out Of Sight (15): Rush Hour (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Negotiator (15): Mulan (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Godzil-la (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): Flubber (U)

GLASGOW

ABC SAUCHIEHALL ST (0141-332 1592): Small Soldlers (PG): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U): Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (18): Out Of Sight (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Ronin (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18)

CALEDONIAN GROSVENOR (0141-339) 4298): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Babe: Pig in The City (U): The Prince Of Egypt (U): My Name is Joe (15): Antz (PG): Fame (U): Addams

ODEON (08705-050007): The Parent Trap (PG): Out Of Sight (15); Antz (PG): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Blade (18); The Negotiator (15): Babe: Pig in The City (U); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15); The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15); The Prince Of Fayor (I)

SPRINGFIELD QUAY (08705-050007):
Rush Hour (15): It's A Wonderful Life
(U): Elizabeth (15): There's Something
About Mary (15): The Prince Of Egypt
(U): Dead Man Walking (15): Out Of Sight
(15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Ronh (15);
Mulan (U): Dancing At Lughnasa (PG):
My Name Is Joe (15): Blade (18): Ante(PG): The Exorcist (25th Amikersary Rerelease) (18): A Perfect Murder (15):
Smail Soldiers (PG): The Parent Trap (PG):
The Negotiator (15): Babe: Pig in The The Negotiator (15); Babe: Pig in The City (U): Dr Dollttle (PG)

Visit Profile Francisco (US41-555136); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG); Out Of Sight (15); My Name Is Joe (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG)

City (0); Smail Soldiers (PG); Mittlian (U); There's Something About Mary (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Negotlator (15); Out Of Sight (15); Rush Hour (15); Jingle All The Way (PG); Mendhi (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Aritz (PG)

CALEDONIAN CINEMAS (01463-233302): My Name Is Joe (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Antz (PG): Lost In Space (PG): Rush Hour (15): Babe: Pig

ODEON (08705-050007); The Negotlator (15); Mulan (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U); Blade (18); The Parent Trap (PG); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15)

Sight (15); Rush Hour (15); Babe: Pig In The City (U): Fear And Loathing in In The City (U): Fear And Loatning in Las Vegas (18); Ronin (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Antz (PG): Small Soldiers (PG); Vel-vet Goldmine (18); The Prince Of Egypt

LEICESTER

Prince Of Egypt (U) City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Ronin (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Out Of Sight

VIRGIN FORGE PARKHEAD (0541-

HULL
ODEON (08705-050007); Mouseflunt
(PG): Les Miserables (12): The Mask Of
Zorro (PG); Blade (18): Babe: Pig In The
City (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Rush Hour
(15): Mulan (U): Small Soldiers (PG):
Godzilla (PG): Saving Private Ryan (15);
Out Of Sight (15): The Borrowers (U);
The Parent Trap (PG): Ronin (15): Dr
Dollttle (PG): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Antz (PG)

UCI 8 ST ANDREWS QUAY (0990-868990): Blade (18): The Parent Trap (PG): Elizabeth (15): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Small Soldiers (PG): Mulan (U):

EDEN COURT THEATRE (01463-234274): Buffalo 66 (15); Funny Games (18); Rebecca (PG); Cube (15); Elizabeth (15); The Land Girls (12)

INVERNESS WARNER VILLAGE (01463-INVERNESS WARNER VILLAGE (01463-711147): Blade (18): 101 Dalmatians (U): Out Of Sight (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Saving Private Ryan (15): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldlers (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U): Antz (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Parent Trap (PG): The Negotiator (15): Mulan (U)

ABC (0113-245 2665); Out Of Sight (15); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Antz (PG); The Truman Show (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18)

WARNER VILLAGE (0113-279 9855); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Blade (18); 101 Dalmatians (U); Out Of

DEON FREEMENS PARK (08705-050007); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); The Truman Show (PG); Lost In Space (PG): Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Out Of Sight (15): There's Something About Mary (15): Rush Hour (15): Godzilla (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Blade (18); Ronin (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); The Negotiator (15); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Antz (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U) PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854); The

101 Dalmatians (U): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Rush Hour (15): The Negotiator (15): Antz (PG); Blade (18): The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Small Soldiers (PG); Mulan (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Ronin (15);

ODEON (08705-050007); Dr Dolltde (DEON (08/05-05000/); Dr Dontole (PG); Antz (PG); Blade (18); The Parent Trap (PG); MouseHunt (PG); Mulan (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); Rush Hour (15); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Small Soldiers (PG); Out (PG) (PG) In The City (U); Small Soldiers (PG): Out Of Sight (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG)

LIVERPOOL ABC ALLERTON (0151-724 3550); Babe: Pig In The City (U): Dr Dolittle (PG) PLAZA (0151-474 4076); The Prince Of

Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U); Out Of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Antz ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG): Out Of Sight (15); Babe: Pig in The City (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG);

Mulan (U); The Prince Of Egypt (U) VIRGIN (0541-555146); The Negotiator (15); Rush Hour (15); Mulan (U); Blade (18); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Small Soldiers (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): Out Of Sight (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Antz (PG): The Tru-man Show (PG)

WOOLTON PICTURE HOUSE (0151-428 1919): Out Of Sight (15); Babe: Pig In

MANCHESTER ARENA SEVEN CINEMAS (0161-839 0700); Antz (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Rush Hour (15); Blade (18): The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Out Of Sight (15): Mulan (U): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Ronin (15): Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas (18)

CINECITY (0161-445 8181); The Mask

Of Zorro (PG): Asian Film (NC): The Par-

ent Trap (PG): Fear And Loathing in Las

ODEON (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15): Mulan (U): Babe: Pig In The City (U): The Negotiator (15): Blade (18): The Exordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Out Of Sight (15): Antz (PG): The Mask Of Zorro (PG)

UCI TRAFFORD CENTRE (0870-603 4567); Kudrat (NC); Antz (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Efizabeth (15); Snake Eyes (15); Blade (18); Mulan (U); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Out Of Sight (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Dil To Pagal Hai (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Pagalesco) (18); Breth Hour To Pagal Hai (PG): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Rush Hour (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC): Ronin (15): The Negotlator (15): Hope Floats (PG): Twilight (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Saving Private Ryan (15): There's Something About Mary (15): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE ODEON (08705-050007); Ever After (PG); The Borrowers (U); Out Of Sight (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); Babe: Plg in The City (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG)

WARNER VILLAGE (0191-2210222); Blade (18); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Small Soldiers (PG): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Lock, Stock & Tivo Smoking Barrels (18); Rush Hour (15); 101 Dalmatians (U); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Ronin (15); Mulan (U); Antz (PG); Out Of Sight (15); Babe: Pig In The City (U); The Negotiator (15)

NOTTINGHAM

ABC (0115-947 5260): The Negotiator
(15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Antz (PG):
The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease)
(18); Out Of Sight (15); Small Soldiers
(PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U)

ODEON (08705-050007); Romin (15);

ODEON (08/05-050007); Romin (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Blade (18): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Mulan (U): The Mask Of Zor-ro (PG): There's Something About Mary (15); Rush Hour (15) SAVOY (0115-947 5812): Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Mulan (U); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig In The City (U); Out Of Sight (15)

WARNER VILLAGE (01772-881100); Small Soldiers (PG); Mulan (U); The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Out Of Sight (15): Antz (PG); The Land Girls (12): Babe: Pig In The City (U); Blade (18): 101 Dalmatlans (U)

UCI 10 (0990-888990); Elizabeth (15): UCI 10 (0990-888990); Elizabeth (15); The Land Girls (12); There's Something About Mary (15); The Last Days Of Disco (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Out Of Sight (15); Blade (18); Kudrat (NC); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG); Jingle All The Way (PG); Saber File in The Circ (II); The Exbe: Pig in The City (U): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); The Negotiator (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Ronin (15)

ODEON (08705-050007); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Blade (18); Babe: Pig in The City (U); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Dr Dolittle (PG); The Iruman Show (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Ronin (15): Mulan (U); Out Of Sight (15): Rush Hour (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Antz (PG): Small Soldiers (PG); The Ne-gotlator (15)

VIRGIN (Dom Valley) (0114-242 1237); Rush Hour (15); Blade (18); Twilight (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC); Saving Private Ryan (15); The Truman Show (PG); Dr Dolit-tle (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); The Negotiator (15): Scarface (1983 version) (18): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Still Crazy (15): The Parent Trap (PG): There's Something About Mary (15): The Extended (1984 Applicable (1984)) orcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); It's A Wonderful Life (U): Out Of Sight (15): Playing God (18): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): Pardeshi Babu (NC): Antz (PG): Ronin (15): Dead Man's Curve (15): Small Soldiers (PG):

WARNER VILLAGE (0) 14-256 9222): WARNER VILLAGE (0) 14-256 9222);
The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG);
Mulan (U); The Mask Of Zorro (PG);
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18);
Ronin (15); Babe: Pig In The City (U);
101 Dalmatians (U); Out Of Sight (15);
Small Soldiers (PG); Blade (18); The Negotiator (15)

UCI CRYSTAL PEAKS 10 (0990-888990): UCI CRYSTAL PEAKS 10 (0990-888990):
Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In The City (U):
Rush Hour (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG):
The Negotiator (15): The Parent Trap
(PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Out Of
Sight (15): Mulan (U): The Exorcist (25th
Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Saving Private Ryan (15): There's Something
About Mary (15): Blade (18): Dr Dolittle (PG): Doli Sajake Rakhna (NC):
Ronin (15): Small Soldiers (PG)

STOKE-ON-TRENT ABC (01782-212320); Babe: Pig In The City (U): Antz (PG): The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Out Of Sight (15); Rush Hour (15)

FILM THEATRE (01782-411188); The Land Girls (12); La Vie De Jésus (NC); The **ODEON** (08705-050007); Small Soldiers (PG); Antz (PG): Rush Hour (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in The City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Blade (18); There's Something About Mary (15); Ronin (15); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): The Negotiator (15); Out Of Sight (15): The Iruman Show (PG): Mulan (U)

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01924-CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01924-33230); The Santa Clause (U); Baber Pig in The City (U); The Negotiator (15): Ronim (15); Titanic (12); Wajood (PG); Orina Gate (NC); Kuchat (NC); Blade (18); The Mask Of Zorro (PG); Antz (PG); Mulan (U); Desperado (18); Out Of Sight (15); The Prince Of Egypt (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Rush Hour (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Dr Dolittle (PG); Doli Salake Rakhna (NC): There's Something Jake Rakhna (NC); There's Something

About Mary (15) UNIT 4 APOLLO (0161-790 9432); Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Negotiator (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince

WARRINGTON UCI 10 WESTBROOK (0990-888990): UCI 10 WESTBROOK (0990-888990); Rush Hour (15): Saving Private Ryan (15): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Blade (18): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Doli Sajake Rakina (NC): Babe: Pig In The City (U): Small Sol-diers (PG): Out Of Sight (15): There's Something About Mary (15): The Par-ent Trap (PG): Ronin (15): Antz (PG): The Negotiator (15): The Prince Of

The Negotiator (15): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Mulan (U) VIRGIN (0541 - 555150); Babe: Pig In Viktin (054) - 555130]: Babe! Fig in The City (U): The Negotiator (15): Blade (18): Rush Hour (15): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Antz (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): Dr Dolittle (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince Of Egypt (U): There's Something About Mary (15): Out Of Sight (15): Ronin (15): Mulan (U)

REGAL CENTRE (01909-482896): The Express (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Jingle All The Way (PG); Elizabeth (15)

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

TOWN CINEMA (01453-521666); Antz (PG); Les Miserables (12) WREXHAM ODEON CINEMA (08705050007):Godzil-(15): Babe: Pig in The City (U): The Mask Of Zorro (PG): Antz (PG): Good Burg-er (PG): Rush Hour (15): Mulan (U): Ever After (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Dr Dolittile (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): Saving Private Ryan (15): Paulie (U): The Prince Of Egypt (U): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Blade (18)

CITY SCREEN (01904-612940); Sliding Doors (15); East Side Story (U); He Got Game (18): Socret Défense (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007): Evita (PG): Out Of Sight (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Babe: Pig in The City (U); Mulan (U): The Prince Of Egypt (U); The Mask Of Zor-

WARNER VILLAGE (01904-691094);
Out Of Sight (15): The Prince Of Egypt
(U): 101 Dalmatians (U): Lock, Stock &
Two Smoking Barrels (18): Elizabeth
(15): Twilight (15): The Mask Of Zorro
(PG): The Negotlator (15): Ronin (15):
Mulan (U): The Exorcist (25th Annivermulan (U): The Express (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Rush Hour (15): Blade (18): Babe: Pig in The City (U): Small Soldiers (PG): The Parent Trap (PG); Antz (PG)

CINEMA REPERTORY

BELFAST QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE (01232-244857) It's A Wonderful Life (U) Sat-Thu 3pm, 6.45pm Out Of The Past (PG) Sat/Sun 4.30pm I Want You (18) Sat-Thu 9pm Character (15) Sat-Thu 9.15pm A Fish Called Wanda (15) Sun 7pm Pépe Le Moko (15) Mon-Thu 9.15pm

BRADFORD

MMPFTV (PICTUREVILLE CINEMA) (01274-732277) Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (U) Sat 1pm; Sun 2.45pm Psycho Hang (U) sat 1pm; sun 2.45pm resycno (15) Sat 3.45pm, 8.15pm; Sun 5.30pm Rien Ne Va Plus (15) Sat 6pm; also Mon. Tue 2pm, 6pm. Wed 1.30pm, 5.45pm. Thu 4pm, 8.15pm The Bollywood Movie (NC) Sun 7.30pm Wild Target (15) Mon 4pm, 8.15pm The Disappearance Of Finbar (15) Tue 4pm, 8pm; also Wed 3.45pm. Thu 2pm, 6pm An Evening With Laurel And Hardy (U) Wed 8pm

COVENTRY WARWICK ARTS CENTRE (01203-524524) A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries (15) Sat 4pm, 9pm; also Sun 4pm, Mon, Wed 9pm, Tue, Thu 6.30pm Cousin Bette (15) Sat, Mon, Wed 6.30pm; also Sun, 7.30om, Tue, Thu 9pm

METRO CINEMA (01332-347765) The Governess (15) Sat 6pm; also 5um 8.15pm, Tue, Thu 6pm, Wed 8.45pm It's A Wonderful Life (U) Sat, Tue. Thu 8.30pm; also Sun 5.30pm, Wed 6pm

IRISH FILM CENTRE (00 353 1-679 IRISH FILM CENTRE (00 353 1-679 3477/5744) Reprise (NC) Sat 1 pm Smoking (PG) Sat 2pm On Connait La Chanson (PG) Sat 4.30pm, 8.30pm; also Sun 6.30pm, 8.45pm, Mon-Thu 3pm, 8.30pm, Fri 3pm, 6.10pm Les Palmes De Monsieur Schutz (NC) Sat 4.45pm Le septieme clel (NC) Sat 6.45pm French Shorts Programme (NC) Sat 7pm Those Who Love Me Catch The Train (NC) Sat 8.30pm The Fountainhead (PG) Mon-Fri 8.30pm The Fountainhead (PG) Mon-Fri 2.10pm, 6.30pm Year Of The Horse (15) Mon-Fri 4.20pm, 8.45pm Deliverance (18) Mon, Wed 6.20pm Scream (18) Tue

EDINBURGH FILMHOUSE (0131-228 2688) Tales Of The City (Series 1: Part 1) (NC) Sat 2pm Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) Sat-Wed Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) Sat-weg 2.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm; also Thu 2.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, Fri 6pm, 8.45pm The Doom Generation (18) Sat/Sun 8.15pm; also Mon, Tue 3pm, Sacysun d. Lapm; also mon, we apm, 8.15pm, Wed, Thu 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.15pm Tales Of The City (Series 1: Part 2) (NC) Sun 2pm Hands (aka Palms) (PG) Sun 3pm; also Mon, Tue 5.45pm Henry Fool (18) Sat/Sun, Wed-Fri 5.40pm, 8.30pm; also Mon, Tue 8.30pm Kuhle Wampe (PG) Mon/Tue 3.30pm, 6pm Chitty Chitty Bang

Bang (U) Wed-Thu 2pm THE LUMIERE (0131-247 4219) (Info.only) The Witches (PG) Sun 12.30pm Small Faces (15) Sat 9pm Venus Peter (PG) Sat 6pm Memphis Belle (12) Sun 3pm An American In Paris (U) Sun 5.30pm A Life Less Ordinary (15) Sun

FTH ARTS CENTRE (01342 506850) The Horse Whisperer (PG) Mon 1.30pm, 7pm Love Is The Devil (18) Wed 7.30pm

FILM THEATRE (0141-332 8128) Year
Of The Horse (15) Sat 1.45pm, 8.30pm;
also Sun 1.45pm, 6.15pm, Mon. Tue
1.15pm, 6.15pm, Wed. Thu 3.45pm,
8.30pm On Connait La Chanson (PG) Sat 8.30pm On Connaît La Chanson (PG) Sat 3.30pm, 6pm; also Sun 8.30pm, Mon 3.30pm, 6pm; also Sun 8.30pm, Mon 8.30pm, Mon 1.15pm, 6pm, Thu 3.15pm, 8.45pm Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) Sat/Sun 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm; also Mon 1.45pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, Tue, Thu 3.15pm, 8.45pm, Wed 3.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, Fri 8.45pm Amateur (15)/Fiir Sun 2pm The Witches (PG) Tue 1pm The Muppet Christmas Carol (U) Wed 1.15pm The Singing Ringing Tree (U) Thu 1.15pm The Cow (NC) Thu 6.30pm

GRIMSBY SCREEN (01472-323333) Saving Private Ryan (15) Sat 7pm Sons Of The Desert & Helpmates (U) Sat 2pm Cousin Bette (15) Tue/Wed 7 30pm

HULL SCREEN (01482-226655) Three

Colours Blue (15) Sat 4.45pm Three Colours White (15) Sat 7pm Three Colours Red (15) Sat 9pm Funny Gard's (18) Tue-Wed 7.30pm Divorcing Jack (18) Tue-Wed 7.30pm Divorcing Jack (18) Thu 7.30pm LANCASTER THE DUKES PLAYHOUSE (01524. 66645) Elizabeth (15) Sun 8pm; also

Mon, Wed 8.30pm, Tue. Thu 6pm Ma-

jorettes in Space: Five Gay Tales From France (18) Mon 6.30pm The Governess (15) Tue, Thu 8.30pm; also Wed 6pm

CORNERHOUSE (200 1500) Dancing At Lughnasa (PG) Sat. Tue-Thu 1.55pm. 4.10pm. 6.25pm, 8.40pm; also Sun 8.40pm, Mon 6.25pm, 8.40pm Rien Ne Va Plus (15) Sat 2pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm; also Sun, Wed 4pm, 6.10pm, Mon 6.10pm, 8.20pm, Tue. Thu 4pm, 8.20pm it's A Wonderful Life (U) Sat/Sun, Tue-Fri 2.10pm, 5.25pm, 8.05pm; also Mon 5.25pm, 8.05pm Life Margot (18) Sun 1.55pm, 5.55pm The Mass is Ended (NC) Sun 2pm, 8.20pm La Chinoise (NC) Tue 2pm, 6.10pm Red Lob + La Cosa (NC) Wed 2pm, 8.20pm Dear Diary (15) Thu 2pm, 6.10pm Sat 2pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm; also Sun.

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NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

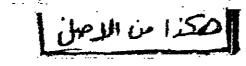
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
TYNESIDE CINEMA (0191-2328289)
The Adventures Of Robin Hood (U) Sat
1.30pm It's A Wonderful Life (U) Sat
2pm: also Sun 1pm. 8pm. Mon 5.30pm.
Tue 2.45pm. 8pm. Wed 5pm. Thu 8pm.
Fri 10.30am, 2.45pm Top Gun (18) Sun
A 30pm The Disappearance Of Finbar Fri 10.30am, 2.45pm Top Gun (18) Sun 4.30pm The Disappearance Of Finbar (15) Sat 5pm; also Sun. Tue, Thu 6pm. Mon 3.15pm, 8.15pm, Wed 8.15pm; Rounders (15) Sat 5.45pm, 8.15pm; also Sun, Thu 8.30pm, Mon 5.45pm, Tue 3.45pm, 8.30pm, Wed 3.15pm, 8.45pm Henry Fool (18) Sat 8pm; also Sun 3.15pm, Mon 2.45pm, 8pm, Tue, Thu 5.15pm, Wed 7.30pm, Fri 3pm, 8pm Lucle Aubrac (12) Tue 1.30pm The Windrush Kids: Shorts (NC) Wed 1.30pm; It's Tough To Be A Kid: Shorts (NC) Thu 1.30pm, 4.30pm

NOTTINGHAM

NOTTINGHAM
BROADWAY (0115-952 6611) Character (15) Sat 3.30pm, 8.30pm; also Sun 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm, Mon-Fri 6pm, 8.30pm Henry Fool (18) Sat, Mon, Tue 5.45pm; also Sun 3pm, Wed, Thu 8.30pm The Deat: Shorts From The North Of England (NC) Sat 6pm Girls Town (15) Sat 8.30pm; Sun 6pm Portishead: PYNC (NC) Sun 8.15pm The Taste Of Cherry (PG) Mon, Tue 8.30pm; also Wed, Thu 6pm Mon, Tue 8.30pm; also Wed. Thu 6pm

SHEFFIELD

SHEFFIELD
THE SHOWROOM (0114-275 7727) My
Name Is Joe (15) Sat. Tue-Thu 2pm.
4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm: also Sun
6pm, 8.15pm, Mon 2pm, 4.15pm.
6.30pm. Fri 4pm, 8.45pm The Slipper
And The Rose (U) Sat 2pm It's A Wonderful Life (U) Sat. Mon, Wed 2.15pm,
8.15pm: also Sun 2.15pm, 7.50pm, Tue,
Thu 5.40pm, Fri 2.15pm Dancing At
Lughnasa (PG) Sat-Thu 2.30pm, 4.40pm,
6.45pm, 8.50pm, Fri 6.45pm, 8.50pm
Elizabeth (15) Sat. Mon, Wed 5.40pm;
also Sun 5.10pm, Tue, Thu 2.15pm,
8.20pm, Fri 1.50pm, 6.10pm La Vic.
Revée Des Anges (18) Sat 6.10pm
8.30pm: also Sun 5.40pm, 8pm, Mon-Fri
2.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Arsenic And
Old Lace (PG) Sun 2.15pm; Mon 8.30pm



THEATRE

ABERDEEN HIS MAJESTY'S Peter Pan Sonia stars in J M Barrie's delightful tale. 12. 15-19 Dec 7pm, mats 12 Dec. .45pm, 13 Dec, 3pm, 15-17 Dec. .45pm, ends 3 Jan. £10-£14, oncs available. Rosemount Viaduct (01224-641122)

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BIRMINGHAM REP A Christmas Carol Michael Bogdanov directs a new adaptation of Charles Dicken's Victorian tale of greed and redemption. 12, 14-15, 18 Dec. 7.15pm, mats 12 Dec. 2.30pm, 16-17 Dec. 10.30am & 2.30pm, £7.25-£19,

236 44551 BLACKPOOL GRAND THEATRE The Woman In Black Frank Finlay stars in a chill-ing adaptation of Susan Hill's highly acclaimed novel 12 Dec. 7.30pm. £8-£16.50.

Aladdin Magical family panto starring Wayne Sleep. 17 Dec. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 18-19 Dec 2pm & 7pm. £6-£13.50. concs available. Church Street (01253-290190)

BOLTON
OCTAGON THEATRE The Wizard Of Oz Join Dorothy and her little dog Toto on their journey to the magical world of Oz. 12. 14 & 17 Dec. 2pm, 15-16 Dec, 10.30am & 7.30pm, £8-£11.75, concs available. Howell Croft South (01204-520661)

CHESTER GATEWAY THEATRE Alice's Adin her journey down a rabbit hole. 12.
18-19 Dec, 7pm, mats 12 Dec, 2 15pm, 14-17 Dec, 10.15am & 2.15pm, 18 Dec, 10.15am, £11.50, bild \$5.50 copes available Hamil hild £6 50, concs available, Hamil-Place (01244-340392)

BELGRADE THEATRE Sleeping Beauty Huge family panto with sumptuous costumes, stunning sets nd a magical time machine. 12, 18-19 Dec. 7pm. mats 12 Dec. 2.30pm. 15-17 Dec. 10am & 2pm. £8-£14.50, concs available. Corporation Street (01203-553055)

DERBY PLAYHOUSE Babes In The Wood Join Robin Hood and his merry men in the search for the lost babes and Maid Marian. 12, 18-19 Dec. 7.15pm, mats 15-17 Dec. 10am & 2pm, 18 & 19 Dec. 2pm. £9-£14.50, concs £6-£9.50. Theatre Walk (01332-363275)

DUNDEE REPERTORY THEATRE Jungle Book A charming tation of Kipling's tale about Mowgli and his jungle friends. 12-23 Dec. 7.15pm, mat 12 Dec. 2.30pm, ends 9 Jan. £9-£10.25, concs available. Tay Square (01382-223530)

EDINBURGH KING'S THEATRE The Adventures Of Aladdin The magical experience of panto for all the family starring David Rintoul, Allan Stewart and Gerard Kelly. 13 Dec. 1pm & 5.15pm, 12, 16-17 Dec, 2pm & 7pm, 15 & 18 Dec, 7pm, ends 17 Jan. £7.50-£14.50, concs available. (0116-253 9797)

Leven Street (0131-529 6000)

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE The Snow Queen Stuart Paters ing adaptation of Anderson's fairy-tale. 12, 16-19 Dec. 7pm. mat 12 Dec. 2.30pm, ends 9 Jan. £4-£15, concs available. Grindlay Street (0131-229 9697)

CITIZENS THEATRE Merlin The Magnificent Classic Arthurian legend, wizardry and evil forces combine in an enchanting new Christmas show. 12 Dec, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 14-16 Dec, 10am & 2pm, 17-18 Dec, 2pm & 7pm, ends 26 Dec. £2.50-£10. concs available. Gorbals Street (0141-429 0022)

KING'S THEATRE Sleeping Beauty Elaine C Smith stars in this concs available. Broad Street (0121nagical fairy-tale production. Mon-Sat 7pm, mats 12 Dec, 2pm, 14, 16-18 Dec, 1pm, 15 Dec, 10,30am, ends 16 Jan, £2,50-£15, concs available. Bath Street (0141-287 5511)

PAVILION THEATRE Pinocchio The Krankies and Jimmy Cricket deliver a magical panto treat, 12, 15-18 Dec. 7.30pm. mats 12 Dec. 2pm, 13 Dec. 2pm & 6.30pm, 15 & 18 Dec. 10am, 16-17 Dec, 1.30pm, ends 23 lan. £6-£9.50, concs av able. Renfield Street (0141-332 1846)

HUDDERSFIELD WRENCE BATLEY THEATRE Charlotte's Web Much-loved tale of Wilbur the pig. 12 Dec. 1pm & 7pm.
14-18 Dec. 10am & 1pm. £8.50.
child £6.50, family £25.
Bouncers John Godber's comedy about young nightclub doormen. Dec 15-17, 8pm, 18-19 Dec. 6.30pm & 9pm. £12, concs £10. Queen Street (01484-430528)

EDEN COURT THEATRE Peter Pan Flyaway fun with siren from Gladia-tors and Tich McCooey. 12 Dec. 2.15pm & 7pm, 14-18 Dec. 1.30pm & 7pm, ends 9 Jan. £6.50-£12.50, concs available. Bishops Road (01463-234234/cc 234274)

LANCASTER DUKES THEATRE The BFG Roald Dahl's Christmas tale is adapted for the stage by David Wood. 12 & 18 Dec. 7pm, mats 12, 14-16 Dec. m, 17 Dec. 10am & 2.30pm. £6-£10, concs available. Moor Lane (01524-66645)

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: COURTYARD THEA Present Laughter Ian McKellen stars in Noel Coward's witty comedy about theatrical life. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 12 Dec. 2.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £8-£17, concs £5.50-£14.50. The Nutcracker Hoffman's tale of the Sugar Plum Fairy, 16 Dec, 1.30pm, 17-19 Dec, 10am & 1.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £5.50-£17. Quarry Hill Mount (0113-213 7700)

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: QUARRY THEATRE Martin Guerre Boubil and Schonberg's musical love story. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2pm, ends 13 Feb. £8-£21. Quarry Hill Mount (0113-213 7700)

LEKCESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE Singin' In The Rain High-water mark of Amer-ican musicals. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £7-£19.50. Belgrave Gate

LIVERPOOL

EVERYMAN THEATRE Jumpin Jack Flash Rock n'roll panto featuring a runge of favourite hits. 12, 14-19 Dec. 7.30pm. mats 12 & 19 Dec. 2.30pm. 14-17 Dec. 1.30pm. ends 30 Jan. £5,95-£11,95. Hope Street (0151-709 4776)

NEPTUNE THEATRE Pecer Pan Former Gladiator Eunice flies in to save the Lost Boys from the scheming Captain Hook. 18-19 Dec. 2pm & 7pm. £7-£10, concs £5-£8. Hanover Street (0151-709 7844)

LLANDUDNO

NORTH WALES THEATRE The Adventures Of Peter Pan Starring Glen Murphy from London's Burning. 12. 18-19 Dec. 2.15pm & 7.15pm, 14-17 Dec. 10.30am & 2.30pm. £7.50-£12.50, concs ava able. Promenade (01492-872000)

MANCHESTER FORUM THEATRE WYTHENSHAWE The Snow Queen Imaginative

adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale, 12 & 18 Dec. 7pm, mats 12 Dec. 2.30pm, 15-17 Dec. 10.30am, ends 2 Jan. £8-£14, concs £6-£11. Civic Centre (0161-437 9663)

LIBRARY THEATRE Puss In Boots Adventure story about a young man who leaves home in search of fame and fortune, accompanied by his exceptionally clever cat Puss, 12 & 18 Dec. 7pm, mats 12 Dec. 2.30pm, 15-17 Dec. 10.30am & 2pm. £8-£15, concs available, Central Library. St Peter's Square (0161-236 7110)

OPERA HOUSE Oliver! Gary Wilmot stars in Lionel Bart's ever popular musical following the fortunes of an oroban in Victorian London, Mon-Sar 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 30 Jan. £10-£29. Quay Street (0161-242 2503/cc 831 7733)

PALACE THEATRE Cinderella Jim Davidson directs a family panto for a change, starring Darren Day and Ruth Madoc. 18-19 Dec. 7.30pm. £7.50-£15.50, concs available. Oxford Street (0161-242 2525)

ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE Hindle Wakes The Royal Exchange re-opens with the production which was cut short by the bomb blast in was cat short by the both bast in 1996. Mon-Fri 7.30pm. Sat 8pm, mass 12 Dec, 4pm, 16 Dec, 2.30pm, ends 9 Jan, £7-£23, concs available. St Anne's Square (0161-833 9833)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE The Princess And The Goblin The blins attempt to take over the world in this magical Christmas show, 12, 17-19 Dec, 2pm & 7pm. 14-16 Dec. 10am & 2pm, ends 9 Jan. £10.75-£12.75. concs available. Barras Bridge (0191-230 5151)

THEATRE ROYAL Cinderella Popular pantomime featuring stars from TV's Coronation Street and Eastenders, 12-19 Dec, 7pm, mats 12, 14-18 Dec, 2pm, £5-£15, concs available. Grey Street (0191-232 2061)

> MOTTINGHAM NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Jack And The Beanstalk Kenneth Alan Taylor writes and directs his 15th consecutive pantomime for Nottingham Playhouse. 12, 14-17 Dec, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 18-19 Dec, 7.30pm, £9-£12, child £5-£8. East Circus Street (0115-941 9419)

PERTH THEATRE Women On The

2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 9 Jan. £4.50-£13, concs available. High

£13. concs £3.50-£6.50.

Street (01738-621031)

shore Road (01723-370742)

10am, ends 9 Jan. £9, concs £4.50. Westborough (01723-370541)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

SWAN THEATRE A Month In The

GRAND OPERA HOUSE Jack And

The Beanstalk Fun-filled family pan-to with TV stars from Gludiators and

Home and Auray. 17-19 Dec. 2.30pm & 7.30pm. E8-£12, concs available. Cumberland Street (01904-671818)

THEATRE ROYAL Beauty And The

Beast Berwick Kaler stars. 15-19 Dec, 7.30pm. £7.50-£14.75, concs

available. St. Leonards Place (01904-623568)

THEATRE

WEST END

JESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christ-

mas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc

Circ. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 8pm. [1] 3pm & 5pm, £5.50-£18.50.

THE SNOWMAN Award-winning

production of Raymond Briggs' con-temporary classic Sadler's Wells At The Peacock Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) & Temple. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 30 Jan. 67 50-632 50

(01789-295623)

SCARBOROUGH

Verge Of HRT Two forty-something women discuss their situation in life 12 Dec. 2.30pm & 7.30pm. £5-BIRMINGHAM BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM AND ART Aladdin And His Wonderful Lamp Brand new production with Wishee Washee and Widow Twankee and the GALLERY Burne-Jones Important work by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. Mon-Thu, Sat 10am-5pm, Fri 10.30am-5pm. Sun 12 30pm-5pm. ends 17 Jan. E5, E3.50 concs, £14 other family favourites. 18-19 Dec.

family. Chamberlain Square (0121-303 2834) EDINBURGH

FUTURIST THEATRE Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dream-MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND The History Of Scotland Exhibits from the national collections tell the hisroat Musical version of the Bible story. 14-18 Dec. 7,30pm, 19 Dec, 2pm & 8pm, mats 15-18 Dec. 2.30pm. £8.50-£19.50, comes available. Foretory of Scotland. Mon. Wed-Sat 10am-5pm, Tue 10am-8pm, Sun 12noon-5pm, continuing, £3, concs £1.50, child free, season ticket £5, concs £2.50, free 5pm-8pm Tue. Chambers Street (0131-225 7534) STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE: THE ROUND The Boy Who Fell Into A Book Alan Ayekbourn's play about a boy who wakes up and finds him-self a character in a book. 14-18 Dec.

GLASGOW ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM, KELVINGROVE BT Dialogue In The Dark Explore the senses in sound. scent and touch exhibits. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 10 Jan, free. (0141-287 2699)

RUCIBLE THEATRE South Pacific Heartwarming Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. 17-19 Dec. 7.30pm. £11-£15, concs available. Norfolk Street (0114-276 9922) FERENS ART GALLERY Helen Chadwick Wide range of work by the late artist. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 1.30pm-4.30pm, ends 17 Jan. £1, child under 13 & Hull residents ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion. The Wirch And The Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrifree. Queen Victoria Square (01482-613902)

an Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis classic. 18-19 Dec, 7.15pm, mat 19 Dec, 2.30pm, end Feb 27. £5-£30. The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of LEEDS HENRY MOORE INSTITUTE Les Cambodgiennes: Auguste Rodin Drawings made during the Royal Cambodian dance company's four to France. Mon-Sun 10am-5.30pm. obsessive jealousy directed by Gregory Doran. 12, 14-15, 17 Dec 7.30pm. mats 12 & 17 Dec, 1.30pm. ends Feb 26, £7-£30. Waterside (01789-295623) Wed 10am-9pm, ends 3 Jan, free. The Headrow (0113-234 3158)

TATE GALLERY LIVERPOOL (0131-529 6000) Cubism Works by Picasso, Braque and others. Tue-Sun & Bank Hols 10am-6pm, ends Apr 99, free. A Mythology: Salvador Dali Major works from the Florida Dali piuseum. Tue-Sun & Bank Hols 10am-6pm. ends 31 Jan. £5. concs £2.50. Al-

SWAN THEATRE A Month In The Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire.12, 14, 17-18 Dec. 7.30pm, 15 Dec. 7pm, mat 12 Dec. 1.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Troilus And Cressida Shakespeare's depiction of the human spirit undermined by bloody warfare. 16 Dec. 7.30pm, mat 17 Dec. 1.30pm, ends Feb 20. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-295623) WHITWORTH ART GALLERY Burne-Jones Centenary Exhibi-tion Marking the centenary of Sir Edward Burne-Jones. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 21 Mar. free. University of Manchester. Oxford Road (0161-275 7450)

bert Dock (0151-709 3223) .

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE UNIVERSITY GALLERY, UNIVER-SITY OF NORTHU An Investment Bank's Collection Barings' early modern paintings, including works by LS Lowry and Lucien Pissarro, Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, ends 15 Jan, free. Sandyford Road (0191-227 4424)

SHEFFIELD GRAVES ART GALLERY Double Games: Sophie Calle Comprehen-sive retrospective of Calle's work, includes a new work made with noveli Paul Auster. In two venues. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 30 Jan, free. Sur-rey Street (0114-273 5158)

YORK CITY ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes Paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30pm-5pm, ends 3 Jan, free. Exhibition Square (01904-551861)

RADIO

EXHIBITIONS CLASSICAL

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ABERDEEN MITCHELL HALL Tears Of the Angels By Candlelight BT Scottish En-semble with the Scottish premiere of

John Tavener's Depart in Peace. 14 Dec. 7.30pm. £9. concs £5. Broad Street (01224-273140) **EDINBURGH** THE QUEEN'S HALL Scottish

Chamber Orchestra/Quinn Andrea Quinn conducts Sibelius' Suite The Tempest and Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2 with violinist Pekka Kuusisto. 12 Dec., 7.45pm. £5-£18. concs available. Clerk Street (0131-668 2019/cc 0131-667 7776)

BRIDGEWATER HALL BBC Phil-harmonic/forteller Prokoffer's 2nd Piano Concerto and Rachmani 2nd Symphony. 12 Dec., 7.30pm, £6-£25 Christmas Gala Concert The Halle

Orchestra is conducted by Kent Nagano. 13 Dec. 3pm. E8-E20. Halle/Jarvi Tchaikovsky's 1st Piano Concerto and Sibelius's 5th Symphony. 13 Dec. 7.30pm. £6.50-£28. The Pirates of Penzance Gilbert and Sullivan from the Carl Rosa Opera Company. 15 Dec. 7.30pm. £9.50-£22.50. Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000)

OPERA

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE Hansel And Gretel Mark Tinkler directs Scottish Opera's new production of Humperdinck's musical fairytale. 12 Dec. 7.15pm. £5.50-£45.50. concs available. Nicolson Street

GLASGOW THEATRE ROYAL Hansel And Gretel See Edinburgh, 15 & 17 Dec. 7.15pm, ends 23 Dec. £3.50-£45.50, concs available. Hope Street (0141-332 9000)

MANCHESTER ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC Le Nozze di Figaro RNCM Opera with Mozart's classic comedy. 12 Dec. 7pm, £12-£25, Oxford Road (0161-907 5278)

DANCE

HIPPODROME Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker Peter Wright's production of the magical Christmas ballet. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats 12 Dec, 2.30pm, 15 & 16 Dec, 2pm, ends 16 Dec. £13-

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE Scottish Ballet: Cinderella John Fraser's charming production of the classic fairytale. 15, 16 & 17 Dec, 7.30pm. 16 Dec, 2.30pm, ends 24 Dec. £4.50-£30, concs available cottish Ballet: La Fille Mai Gardée Ashton's high spirited ballet featuring acclaimed balletina Yurie Shinohara. 18 & 19 Dec. 7.30pm, mat 19 Dec. 2.30pm. £4.50-£30.

concs available. Nicolson Street

(0131-529 6000)

£36. Hurst Street (0121-622 7486)

LITERATURE

EDINBURGH BILL MCLAREN The voice of Scottish rugby talks about and signs copies of Bill McLaren's Dream Lions. James Thin Bookshop (George Street) George Street (0131-225 4495) 14 Dec, 6pm, Free.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NEWCASTLE UP-UN 17ME DICKENS AT CHRISTMAS NO.2 With Christopher Goulding, writer and actor Laing Art Gallery New Bridge Street (0191-232 7734) 16 Dec. 12.30pm-1.15pm, free.

SCARBOROUGH RUTH RENDELL The famous writer speaks about her latest book and her life. Stephen Joseph Theatre Westborough (01723-370541) 12 Dec. 5.30pm, £4.

COMEDY

BIRMINGHAM THE GLEE CLUB Smiley, Milton Jones, Noel Britten, Andy Robinson. 12 Dec. 8pm, £12. Xmas Party Night with Perrier nom-ince Peter Kay, Kevin McCarthy, Si-mon Fox. 15 Dec. 8pm, £29.50 inc

3 course meal. Second Xmas Party Night with Per-rier nominee Peter Kay, Sean Perci-val, Simon Fox. 16 Dec. 8pm, £29.50 inc 3 course meal.
Third Xmas Party Night with Perrier nominee Peter Kay, Sean Percival, Simon Fox. 17 Dec. 8pm, £35 inc 3

course meal.
Fourth Xmas Party Night with Per-rier nominee Peter Kay, Junior Simp-son, Simon Fox. 18 Dec. 8pm, £35 inc 3 course meal, phone for availability. Hurst Street (0121-693 2248)

LEICESTER ARRANGE THAT MARRIAGE AT HAYMARKET THEATRE One Nation Under A Groove...Innit present their irreverent Asian comedy revue show.

12 Dec., 7.45pm, £6 adv, concs £4: £7 on door, concs £5. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797) STRATEORD-UPON-AVON

THE COMEDY ZONE AT THE ARE-NA Former Red Dwarf star Hattie Dave Dave. 18 Dec., 9pm, £7, concs £6, Swan's Lane (0190589-351733)

CLUBS

BIRMINGHAM REPUBLICA AT BAKERS Featuring DJ Sonique, John Kelly and Scott Bond. 12 Dec. 9.30pm-late, £10, NUS £7. £5 before 10.30pm. Broad Street (0121-633 3839)

TANGENT AT THE SUB CLUB Special guest tonight from London is the superb Dominic 'DjD' Dawson. 13 Dec. 11pm-3am. E8, mems £6. Jamaica Street (0141-248 4600)

MUSIC

ABERDEEN LO-FIDELITY ALLSTARS, REGULAR FRIES Skunk rock from Skint's finest, playing their universally acclaimed debut album, How to Operate With A Blown Mind. Aberdeen University Union Broad Street (01224-272965)

17 Dec. 8pm, £7.50.

LONDON COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR Exhilarating London gospel choir. Town Hall Imperial Square (01242-227979) 16 Dec. 8pm. E6.50-£14.50, concs available

GLASGOW CYPRESS HILL Chilled-out West Coast rap crew, Barrowland Gallowgate (0141-552 4601/cc 226 4679) 13 Dec. 8pm, £15.

DURAN DURAN The classic 1980s pop heart-throbs with a best-of album kage, Greatest. Clyde Auditorium Armadillo) Finniescon Quay (0141-

287 7777) 14 Dec. 7pm, £17.50. JAMES, STEREOPHONICS Tim Booth's seminal Manchester band Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre Exhibition Way

(0141-248 3000) 14 Dec. 8pm, £16. HUMPHREY LYTTELTON BAND

Reknowned jazzman fronting his own band on trumpet. West York-Shire Playhouse Quarry Hill Mount (0113-213 7700) 13 Dec. 8pm, free.

SPACE Tommy Scott's idiosyncratic outfit bring their unit-shifting brand of warped Britpop to your neighbourhood. Royal Court Res Street (0151-709 4321) 18 & 19 Dec, 8pm, £10.50.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNEMANIC STREET PREACHERS. CATATONIA Passionate Welsh trio tour following the success of their

This is my Truth Tell Me Yours al-bum.14 Dec. 7pm, £17.50.Telewest Arena Neville Street (0191-401 8000) 15 Dec. 7pm, £17.50.

PJ HARVEY, DIRTY THREE The multifaceted gothic-imp reinvented in a more casual guise. Rock City Talbot Street (0115-941 2544) 15 Dec.

EVENTS

CHELTENHAM

EXACT AT LOMAX Techno show-case featuring Biorythm, Edge and Speed and Twisted, with Terry Moore and Paul Berry on the decks. 12 Dec. 10pm-late, £5. Cumberland Street

VANITY FAIR EXHIBITION A selection of costumes worn by the principal characters in the BBC's latest adaptation, designed by BAFTA win-ner Rosalind Ebbutt. Pitcriffle Pump Room Albert Road (01242-523852) Mon, Wed-Sat 10am-4.30pm, ends 14 Feb. £1.50, concs 50p.

KNARESBOROUGH ADVENT 1998: WINTER WHITE A mixed-media show including porcelain, stoneware, glass, paper, woven textiles and wood by leading makers from Europe and the UK including Danish ceramic artist Beate Andersen. European Ceramics Finkle Street (01423-867401) Mon-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, closed Thu, ends 24 Dec., phone for details.

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SUNDAY

CHOICE

THE "CENTURIONS" series on landof 20th century culture continues with Marcel

conceptual art.

Duchamp (4.15pm R3) and his most celebrated work The Fountain - a urinal, signed

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:97 6:39 \$1.5 to Fi.i) 6.30 Kevin Greening, 10.00 Mark Goodle 1.00 Liss l'Anson, 3.00 Top of the Pops. 4.00
The Official UK Top 40. 7.00 Radio 1's Dence
Anthems with Dave Pearce, 10.00 Trevor Nelson. 12.00 Charlie Jordan. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills.

"R Mott", from which flowed the

whole warm stream of modern

Radio 2 (%) The Fivit 7.00 Don Maclean, 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs, 11.00 Parkinson's Sunday Supplement, 1.00 Desmond Carington, 3.00 Frank Sinetra: the Voice of the Century, 4.00 The Michael Feinstein Songbook, 4.30 Sing Something Surple, 5.00 Pam Ayres, 7.00 Hugh Scully, 8.30 Sunday Haff Hour, 9.00 Alan Keith, 10.00 Malcolm Laycock. 11.00 The David Jacobs Collection, 12.00 Katrina Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta.

Radio 3) 2-92 4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Moming, 11.00 Artist of the Week, 12.15 Music Matters, 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert 3.00 Spirit of the Age, 4.00 100 Great Singers, 4.15 Certurions, 4.30 The Year, 5.45 Sunday Feature: Throwing the Dice. 6.30 Private Passions. 7.30 Sunday Play: Adverse Possession. 9.30 Choir Wor 11.00 World Music. 11.30 Uister Orchestra. 1.00 6.00 Through the Night.

fichy Feet, 12.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue, 12.56 Weather, 12.50 Tm Sony / Pavert 2 Cuts, 12.50
Weather, 1.00 The World This Weekend, 1.30 Round
Britain Outz, 2.00 Gardeners' Question Time, 2.30
Ramblings, 3.00 The Classic Serial: Bleak House,
4.00 News; Open Book, 4.30 Poetry Please, 5.00
News; A Better World?, 5.40 Feedback, 5.54 Shipping Forecast, 5.57 Weather, 6.00 Six o'Clock News, 6.15 Pick of the Week, 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Room for Improvement. 8.00 Split Ends. 8.30 Law in Action. 9.00 News; The Beat. 9.30 Analysis, 10,00 News; The Westminster Hour, 11,00 News; Hidden Treasures, 11,30 Something Understood, 12,00 News, 12,15 Experimental Feature: Great Skies. 12.30 The Late Story: Rumpole and the Actor Laddle. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping

Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. Radio 4 LW Hadto 4 LW (1)21/tb) 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shapping Forecast, 12.30 - 7.30 Test Match Special.

Forecast, 12,30 - 7,30 less water species.

Radio 5 Live
(100 1000-15 M) 6,00 Brief Lives, 6,30 Breakfast with
(100 1000-15 M) 6,00 Brief Lives, 6,30 Breakfast with
Andrew Neil, 9,00 SportsWeek, 10,00 Euro 99, 12,00
Superpowers, 12,30 The Media Show, 1,00 Sunday
Sport, 7,00 News Edra, 7,30 Edra Time, 8,30 Brief
Lives, 9,00 Dailyn Worldwide, 9,30 Out This Week,
10,00 Late Night Currie, 1,00 Up All Night, 5,00 - 6,00
Membre Benorits

Forecast, 5.40 inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the

Morrid Service Radio worto service rustuo
138F32 V 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Pick of the World.
2.00 N 32day. 2.30 Meridisn (Feature), 3.00 World.
News. 3.05 Write On. 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 The
Works. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

MONDAY

THOMAS HARDYS marriage, and of poetry his wife's death



prompted, is the subject of

Radio 1 1975-99 8M-C FM 6.30 A Spicey Breakfast 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radciffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Lamacq Live. 12.00 The Breazeblock. 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills.

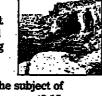
Rescho 2 (89-90 2414; FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton, 8.00 Big Band Special, 8.30 The New Jazz Standards, 9.30 The Rock in Roll Years, 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.00 Katrina Leskanich, 3.00 - 4.00 Mon Drifes

Money Box Live: 0171 580 4444, 3.30 Red Boxes. 3.45 With Great Pleasure. 4.00 News; The Food Programme. 4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57
Weether. 6.00 Six o'Clock News. 6.30 Fm Sony I
Haven't a Cluc. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front
Row. 7.45 Under One Root. 8.00 News; Love is Not
Enough - Overseas Adoptions. 8.30 Analysis. The Profit Motive.' Julian Le Grand looks at the huge parl Profit Motive: Julian Ce Carano looks at the nuge pan essessments of human motivation play in forming public policy for services like health and education. 9.00 News; Nature; A Drop of Life. 9.30 Start the Week, 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Spidenweb, 11.00 Radio 4 Appeal, 11.02 Fatherland, 11.30 Riebel Music, 12.00 News, 12.30

Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Ferming Today, Radio 4 LW 1984 Hz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliement. 12.30 - 7.30 Test Match Special. Radio 5 Live (683 909/Hz MW/ 6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky

CHOICE

miserable first the outpouring



Return to Lyonesse (2.15pm R4). The poet David Constantine visits Boscastle in Cornwall, where the couple met and where Hardy travelled after Emma died.

Mo Dute.

Maclio 3

[90.2-92 4MHz FM] 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.

10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. 9.00 Postscript. 9.25 BBC National Orchestra of Weles. 10.00 Voices. 10.45 Mibring It. 11.30 Jezz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Elioti Carter. 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. Readile 4.

Radio 4
92 1-34 6.8-tc FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 News; Start the
Week, 9.45 Serial: Deer Bill, 10.00 News; Woman's
Hour, 11.00 News; Snapshots from the New South
Africa. 11.30 My Galety Girls. 12.00 News; You and
Yours. 12.57 Weather, 1.00 The World at One. 1.30
Brain of Brains 1998. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15
News; Alternoon Play: Peturn to Lyonesse. 3.00 The Late Book: Aphrodite, 12,48 Shipping Forecast. 1,00 As World Service, 5,30 World News, 5,35

Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Whistle Blower, 8.00 Trevor Brooking's Monday March, 10.00 Late Night Live, 1.00 Up All Night, 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. World Service Radio 1994 Ht LW, 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Seven Days. 1.45 (130k/C LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Seven Days. 1./ Wild Tales, 2.00 Newsdey, 2.30 On Screen, 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 The Idea of the City. 4.00 -7.00 The World Today.

The Francisco State

TUESDAY

NO FORMER colonial power has maintained such close ties with Africa as France, A



Mission to Civilise (8pm R4) looks at this rather ambiguous relationship -France is generous with aid; but it is also generous with arms and troops, and some unpleasant regimes rely on its help.

CHOICE

Radio 1 (97 6-99 8MHz FM) **6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo's** Office Party, 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Radciffe, 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session, 10.00 Digital Update, 10.10 John Peel. block, 2.00 Emma B. 4,00 - 6.30

Radio 2 (88-90_NH: FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewert, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00 Evelyn Glennie's Classics, 8.00 Nigel Ogden, 9.00 Sir John Mills, 10.00 Cole Porter, Night and Day, 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.00 Kabina Leskanich, 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta. Racilo 3 (90 2-92 4MHz FM) 6.00 On Alr. 9.00 Masterworks.

10.30 Artist of the Week, 11.00 Sound Stories, 12.00 Composer of the Week Bach, 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert, 2.00 The BRC Orchestres, 4.00 Volces, 4.45 Music Machine, 5.00 In Tune, 7.30 Vocass. 4.45 Mass. Mescrine: 5.00 in fure. 7.30 Performance on 3. Chris de Souza introduces a concert given lest Friday at the CBSO Centre, Birmingham, Rosemary Hardy (soprano), Peter Hill and Benjemin Frith (pianos). 9.35 Postscript. 10.00 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. 10.45 Night Waves. 11.30 Jazz. Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Elioti Carter. 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

NEALMO 4 \$2.4-04 6NHC FM; 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; The Choice, 9.30 Digites of Today, 9.45 Serial: Dear Bill. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Nature: Life on the Brandberg, 11.30 Wonderland Girls, 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Full Orchestra. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Atternoon Play; Gurney, 3.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Atternoon Play; Gurney, 3.00 News; The Exchange: 0171 S80 4444. 3.30 Stefford on Hurnour. 3.45 With Great Pleasure. 4.00 News; A Good Reed. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM, 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six Child News; 5.00 Feb. 1.57 Weather. 6.00 Six Child News; 5.00 Feb. 1.57 News 1.00 Feb. www.snop.lake.s.00 PM, 5.57 Weather, 5.00 SW or Clock News, 6.30 4 at the Store, 7.00 News; The Archers, 7.15 Front Row, 7.45 Under One Root, 8.00 News; A Massion to Chrise. In the first of two programmes, Ofelbea Quist-Arcton explores the programmes, cleable customer colonies in Atrica. 8.40 in Touch. 9.00 News; Case Notes. 9.30 The Choice, 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime; Spiderweb. 11.00 The Now Show. 11.30 Talking Pictures, 12.00 News, 12.30 The Late Book: Aphrodite, 12.48 Shipping, 1.00 World Service, 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

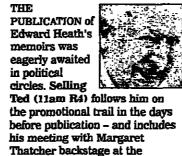
Name 4 LW (1984: 1:10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament 12.30 - 7.30 Test Match Special. Radio 5 Live 693, 909kH; NWA 6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Tuesday Metch. 10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 -

Radio 4 LW

6.00 Morring Reports.
World Service Radio
(1984:1:1W) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Discovery. 2.00
Newsdey. 2.30 Morda News.
3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 One Planet. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

WEDNESDAY

CHOICE THE



Conservative Party Conference.

Radio 1
(97.6-99.90.th;;; FLb) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo's Office Party. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeet. 6.00 Dave Pearcs. 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 10.00 Movie Update with Mark Kermode. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 Gilles Peterson. 2.00 Emma. 8.4.00.6.30 Serv. Millir.

. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Milis. Radio 2 (38-30,23/H; FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00 Nick Barraclough, 8.00 Mike Harding, 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show: 10.00 Route 66 Revisited, 10.30 Richard Allinson, 11.45 Following My Star, 12.00 Katrina Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta. Radio 3

90 2-92 4NHz FM 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week. Bach. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Choral Eversong. 5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Chris Wines introduces a concert from St George's. 3. Chris Wines introduces a concert from St Georges, Brandon Hill, Bristol, given by its resident orchestra. Elizabeth Watlisch and Catherine Mackintosh (violins), Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment/Christophe Coin (cello). 8.15 Book of the Month. 8.35 Concert, part 2. 9.35 Postscript. 10.00 Ensemble. 10.45 Night Waves. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Weelc Effort Carter.

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. Radio 4

(C. 1-94 6WH: Fk.) 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; Midweek, 9.45 Serial: Dear Bill, 10.00 News; Woman's Hour, 11.00 News; Selling Ted. 11.30 The Bona History of Julian and Sandy, 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather, 1.00 The World at One, 1.30 Widbrain, 2.00 News; The Archers, 2.15 Circ. 3.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time, 3.30 Stafford on Humous, 3.45 With Great Pleasure, 4.00 News; Case Notes. 4.30 Thicking Allowed 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather 6.00 Six o'Clock News, 6.30 Bookedi. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Roof. 8.00 News; Education 2000. 8.45 Keyword. 9.00 News; Control Education 2000. 8.45 Keyword. 9.00 News; Costing the Earth, 9.30 Midweek, 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Spiderweb, 11.00 Children's Hour, with Armstrong and Miller, 11,30 4 the Store, 12,00 News, 12,30 The Late Book Aphrodite. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47

6.00 Farming Today. (1994Hz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 - 12.04 News Headtnes; Shaping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shaping Forecast, 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliement Radio 5 Live (623, 903/Hz MW) 6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky

Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News, 1.00 Ruscoe and

Co. 4.00 Drivs. 7.00 News Extra, 7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night. 10.00 Littlejohn. 11.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. World Service Radio (1984-CLW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Ornnibus, 2.00 Newsday, 2.30 Meridian (Books), 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 Brain of Britain, 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

THURSDAY

CHOICE THIS WEEK'S Postscript (9.15pm R3) "Reading Around", has

7 the ever lovely Kevin Jackson putting European writers and their work in context. Tonight's programme is about Jean-

- precursor of the modern

tradition of me-centred literature. Radio 1 (97 6-99 91/Hz; Ft.l) **6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Sknon Mayo's** Office Party, 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Raddiffe, 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session, 10.00 Trade Update, 10.10 John Peel, 12.00

Jacques Rousseau's Confessions

Andy Kershaw, 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills. Readle 2 reactor 2 (8:9) T.W.; F.H: 6.00 Serah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Devid Allan. 8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 The Al Read Show. 9.30 Love 40 - New Betts Please. 10.00 Girls and Gultars. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.00 Ketma Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta.

Radio 3
90 0-22 3MHc 9.6 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stones. 12.00
Composer of the Week. Bach. 1.00 The Radio 3
Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestres. 4.00
Ensemble. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune. 7.30
Performance on 3. Conductor Yan Pascal Tortelier.
Mikhail Rudy (piano). Protofelv: Piano Concerto No 2.
Rachmaninor. Symphony No 2 in E minor. 9.15
Postacropt. 9.40 Beethoven. 10.00 Music Restored.
10.45 Night Waves. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00
Composer of the Week. Elifott Carter. 1.00 - 6.00
Through the Night.
Radio 4
92.444 63Hc FM: 6.00 Today. 9.00 News: in Our Radio 3

190 4-94 (A)Ho FM: 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; In Our Time with Melvyn Bragg, 9.30 News; around Time with Melvyn Bragg, 9.30 Earles of Today, 9.45 Serial: Dear Bill. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour, 11.00 News; Crossing Continents. 11.30 Christmas Shopping, 12.00 News; You and Yours Weather, 1.00 The World at One, 1.30 Hidden Trassures, 2.00 News; The Archers, 2.15 Attempon Play: The Teahouse Detective, 3.00 News; Cell You and Yours; 0171 580 4444, 3.30 Stafford on Humour. 3.45 With Great Pleasure. 4.00 News; Law in Action. 4.30 The Material World. 5.00 PM, 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Sor o'Clock News. 6.30 The Worriers. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Root. 8.00 News; Life with Josle, 8,30 The Week in Westminst 9,00 News; Ground Control, 9,30 to Our Time with Metvyn Bragg. 10.00 The World Torught, 10.45 Book at Bedilme: Spiderweb. 11.00 The Cradleys, 11.15

at Bedtime: Spidenweb. 11.00 The Cradleys. 11.15
MadLean: the Memorex Years. 11.30 New Radio.
12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Aphrodise. 12.48
Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World
News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast.
5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.
Radio 4 LW
179.Hc) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Servica. 12.00 - 12.04
News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57
Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Partiament.
Radio 5 Line
(93. 9034-1: M/) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky
Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and
Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Time of My
Life. 8.00 Inside Edge. 9.00 Hoops. 9.30 Sportshop.
10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00
Morning Reports.

139% Htt LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Composer of the Month 2.00 Newsday, 2.30 Focus on Faith 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 Assignment, 4.00 - 7.00 The

FRIDAY

STACY KEACHstars in The Lost Explorer (9pm R4) by Michael Hastings, whose

last radio play was the excellent

to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Des Lynam. 7.00 Hubert Grego. 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. 9.15 Wuthering. Heights. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00

Him Bill. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Elliott Carter 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. Radio 4

Radiio 4

20 1-91 6MHz Fl.D 6.00 today. 9.00 News; Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Sertal: Deer Bilt. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Strictly Conventional. 11.30 The Smart Couple. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Screen Test. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon. Play: Grounded. 3.00 News; Melting History. 3.30 Stafford on Humour. 3.45 Feedback. 4.00 News; Open Book. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 True Lies. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One News; Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleto is Jonathan Dimbleto is joined in Kettering, Northants, by panellists including Heather Hallett QC, chairman of the Bar. Kate Hoey, Home Office minister, Charlotte Reven, Guardian columnist, and Ann Widecombe, shadow Secretary of State for Health. 8.45 Letter from America. 9.00 News; The Friday Play: The Lost Explorer. 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bectime: Spiderweb. 11.00 Late Tackle. 11.30 The Head in the spice of the second of the secon

CHOICE

The Reith Affair. Nicholas Le Prevost plays an Englishman obsessed with the memory of his father, an explorer who vanished in Brazil Keach is a New York agent who books him for lectures.

197 (-99 8MHz Fl./) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo's 197 C-34 BATC 7-10 BASU ZDB BAIL 5-00 SIMON MARK Office Party 1-2.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Raddiffa. 4-00 Chris Moyles, 5-45 Newsbeat, 6-00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9-00 Judge Jufes. 11.00 Westwood - Padio 1 Rap Show. 2-00 Fabio and Groovender. 4-00 - 7-00 Emma B. Radio 2 88-90 25Htt FMi 6.00 Sarah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up

6.00 Lata Sharma. Radio 3
(20.2.50 4MHz Fuli 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stones. 12.00 Composer of the Week. Bach. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Turne. 7.30 Performance on 3. 8.15 A Sound Read. 8.35 Concert, part 2.9.20 Postscript. 9.45 John Williams. 10.00 Hear and Now. 11.30 And His Mother Called the Bill 12.00 Composer of the Master. 2016 Cortex.

11934 Hos 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship, 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 6.00 Today in Parliament. Radio 5 Live (±3.909/H: MW 6.00 Breaklast 8.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's

Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. 10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Momming Reports. World Service Radio (FSFC UM 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Who Was St Nicholas?. 1.45 Poems by Post. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 News, 3.05 Business. 3.15 Sport. 3.30 Science. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 Outlook. 5.56 - 6.00 Spotfight.

Moming Reports. World Service Radio

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (9083253), **3.45** Fireman Sam (R) (8254562), **3.55** Rugrats (R)(S)(T) (3360901), **4.20** Mr Wymi (S)(T) (1214494). 4.35 Smart (S)(T) (9656833). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (2283611). 5.10 Aquita (S)(T) (8906727).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (277036).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (456).

6.30 Regional News (T) (956).

7.00 Watchdog (S)(T) (9678).

7.30 EastEnders (S)(T) (920). 8.00 Animal Hospital (S)(T) (5098).

8.30 2point4 Children (R)(S) (7833).

9.00 News; Weather (T) (3123). 9.30 **Dinnerladies.** Last of the cornedy series finds the canteen facing hard

times (S)(T) (77659). 10.00 They Think It's All Over. Knock-

about sports quiz (S)(T) (32098).

10.30 Clive Anderson All Talk (S) (41746). **11.00 Question Time** (S)(T) (770302).

12.05 FIM The Great Northfield **Kinnesota Raid** (1972). Muddy, violent vestern with Cliff Robertson and Robert Duval (5380760).

1.35 Joins BBC News 24 (10082012).

BBC2

640 Sexual Selection (4353185), 6.35 Lessons from Keraia (8482388), 7.00 Lessons from Kerala (8482388), 7.00 Garden Fairies (R) (S) (6163901), 7.05 Teletubbles (S) (5164543), 7.30 Yogis Treasure Hunt (R) (8096123), 7.55 Blue Peter (S) (T) (1019017), 8.20 Funky Phantom (R) (4907291), 8.45 Fiddley Foodle Bird (R) (S) (3293253), 8.55 Tooth Fairies (R) (8935340), 9.00 The Garden Fairies (R) (4467901), 9.05 Phil Silvers Show (R) (7946369), 9.30 Great Romances (S) (T) (84949), 10.00 Teletubbles (S) (30814).

10.30 Five Nazis attempt to cross Canada and reach the US. A first-rate cast stars in this wartime propaganda film. With Lesie Howard (T) (79307).

12.30 Working Lunch (88765). 1.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird (F)(S) (21649494). 1.10 Arts and Crafts Hour (5681140). 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (3) (86195104). 2.40 News (1) (6096185). 2.45 Westminster (S)(T) (2679456). 3.25 News (8843036) 3.30 Gardeners' World (R)(S)(T) (814). 4.00 Change That (R)(S)(T) (9016746). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S)(T) (9019833). 4.55 Lown (S)(T) (7981659). 5.30 Today's the Day (S)(T) (185).

6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. Scifi drama series (S)(T) (586253).

6.45 Stiders. Sci-fi drama (S)(T) (809901).

7.30 First Sight (562).

8.00 Beat Route. Jools Holland travels across the Lebanon (S)(f) (6340).

8.30 Top Gear. Place your bets for the show's Car of the Year (S)(T) (5475).

9.00 3rd Rock from the Sun. Dick takes the alien family camping (S)(T) (634949).

9.25 Hilliff Science at War. American strategists plan the war of the future. See Choice, below (S) (567920).

10.15 Trade Secrets (R)(S)(T) (820104).

10.30 Newsnight. (1) (790017). 11.15 Late Review (5) (193340). 12.00 Despatch Box (5) (68925). 12.30 Learning Zone (88707215). To 6:10am.

THURSDAY CHOICE

"FULL SPECTRUM DOMINANCE", the final episode of Science at War (9.25pm BBC2), this gripping series, studies the way the US continues to use science to

continue its military dominance. Already,

a robot spy-plane imperceptible to radar, can track a single soldier's movements from 35,000 feet. But the programme speculates that the most creepy future war

may be over before anyone is even aware of it. The Americans are working on ways of hacking into the enemy's computer

system and infecting it with a virus.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (#23833). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2854524). 10.15 This Morning (1) (328562), **12.15** Granada News (T) (3599611), **12.30** News; Weather (T) (75291), 1.00 Home and Away (S)(T) (58030765). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5729901). 2.10 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (5372494). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (714630). 3.15 News Headlines (T) (8841678).

3.20 Granada News (T) (8831291).

3.25 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8821814), 3.35 Kipper (S) (3912123). 3.45 The Adventures of Paddington Bear (S) (6249630). **3.55** Cow and Chicken (3371017). **4.15** Hey Arnold! (S) (T) (7292122). **4.40** Worst Witch (T) (1742949). **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (6716678). **5.40** News (T) (412272).

5.55 Granada Tonight (1) (8278746).

7.00 Emmerdale. Maddy learns the temble truth about Butch (S)(T) (4746).

7.30 We Can Work It Out. Judy Pinnigan with the show that campaigns for the consumer (388).

8.00 The BHL One woman is dead and two more have gone missing. Rawton goes undercover as a lonely heart to find their killer (T) (4340).

9.00 Picking up the Pleces. Medical drama series. The team is called out to a riot in a prison. Lisa is finally forced to admit the truth (S)(T) (4104).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (50494).

10.30 Granada News (T) (813017)

10.40 Master Class (R) (936765).

Sky Premier
6.00 The Pericci Norther (1996) (1994), 8.00 The Scarcase (1996) 55782, 19.00 Mass Even Boys (1997)
(1965), 19.00 The Pericci Norther (1996) (1559), 2.00
Harrist (1996) 88555355, 4.20 Mass Even Boys (1997)
(2258)20, 8.00 On the Second Day of Christmas (1997)
5384 17.00 Molyacod Buzz 5549, 8.00 Evenyore
Says 11.00 Wol (1996) (1977) 19.00 The German Man
(1996) (1955) 11.35 Semiling Bouchy (1996) (1975)
1.15 Hotel Scareting (1996) (1987) 1.30 - 6.00
Routhmann (1996) (1987)

11.10 Hitting Home (S) (269272). 11.40 The Barmy Army Game Show (607678). **12.10** Tales from the Crypt (3651383). **12.40** Highlander (R) (3648673). **1.40** Pirate TV (9652166). **2.05** Not Fade Away (S) (2231215). **3.05** Box Office America (R) (49668470). 3.30 The Haunted Fishtank (99592296), 3.55 Recollections (R) (58073789), 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (2365215). 5.30 News

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (77833). **9.00** Cosby (T) (9564456).

9.35 TIM That Lady (1955). Ofivia de Havilland stars as a widow at the court of King Philip II (S)(T) (43058814).

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4098). 12.00 Sesame Street (57307). 12.30 Bewitched (R)(T) (73833). 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (8505765). 1.35 Roots to Success (75949098).

1.55 The Left Hand of God (1955). Humphrey Bogart stars in this anti-Communist movie (S)(T) (87956678).

Collectors' Lot (1) (982). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (807). **4.30** Countdown (S)(T) (9640272). **4.55** Ricki Lake (S)(T) (7976727).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (7) (253).

6.00 Roseanne (R)(1) (494).

6.30 Hollycaks (T) (746).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (353307).

7.50 Art Transpennine 98 (T) (546659). 8.00 The Italian Kitchen (1) (1036)

8.30 Personal Services. Last of the series pops into a South Shields bounderette called, delightfully, Posh Wosh (T) (4253).

9.00 The Body Story. Series ends by de-mystifying the last hours in the life of an 86-year-old man (T) (6833).

9.30 Dispatches. Examining the evidence against the two Libyans accused of the Lockerbie bombing (60369).

10.00 Elli Exclusive (1992). Suzanne Somers stars in this TV thriller (496630).

11.45 Oz (656524). 12.55 Vids (5738499). 1.30 Oozat (7113470). 1.35 For the Love of Faith (8662673). 2.35 Kiss Kiss Bang Or Path (900573). 235 NSS Bath Bang (R) (2983234). 3.25 Death Train (R) (6546166). 4.30 Nothing but the Truth (R)(S)(T) (4418215). 5.25 Right to Reply (R)(T) (7122079). 5.55 Sesame Street (R)(S) (9104673). To 7am.

SATELLITE & CABLE

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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6290104). 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6041291). 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (2680291). 7.35 Wimzie's House (R)(S) (5252494). 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (7663746). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7662017). 9.00 The Antiques Hunter (R)(S)(T) (3296456). 9.25 Postcards (R) (4121814), 9.30 The 9.25 Postcards (R) (412/814), 9.30 The Oprah Wirdrey Show (8387543), 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (3097235), 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (8539475), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7666833), 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2287543), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (6040562), 1.30 Store and Dauchters (2286814), 2.00 Sons and Daughters (2286814). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1567494). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2231369).

3.30 The Defector (1966). This secret-agent saga goes all out for seedy realism but is a listless late-corner to the Sixties spy cycle and a sad epitaph for Montgomery Clift (T) (7689456).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9163388).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2492833).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2483185).

7.00 5 News (\$)(T) (1538982).

7.30 Wild at Home. Wildlife look at the Canadian timber wolf (S)(T) (2489369).

8.00 Wing and a Prayer. Last episode of the drama about five barristers – a new run begins early next year. Chris has to out his prejudice aside to defend a transsexual. Amanda and Simon have to make big decisions (R)(S)(T) (6633017).

9.00 Under Investigation (1993). Harry Hamlin, hunting a sadistic sex killer, still finds time for romance with Joanna Pacula in this sleazy thriller. With Richard Beymer (T) (38783253).

10.50 Sex and Shopping. Tour of the porn world turns its attention to the gay commerce in America (S) (3772456).

11.20 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (2488949). **12.00** Live and Dangerous (S) (8634031). **12.40** Live and Dangerous (S) (12015741). 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (6410465), **5.30** 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (7295654). To 6am.

2.26 Cassus 6735829), 3.30 Table Terms (4225507) 4.30 Vicessports (4072949, 6.30 Unicidade): Sports 5926307), 6.00 Friest 5922630, 6.30 Taft Lines (573792), 1930 har Housey (7935629), 1930 Bothy Castons Facilial Scriptock (5607949, 1930 Cosa

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10.30 Angels (936982), 12.00 Data (530872), 11.55
Aughturs (225972), 12.25 Exclinders (23572),
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FRIDAY TELEVISION

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (59789). **7.00** News (T) (12673). **9.00** Kilroy (S)(T) (5322944). 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1088296). **10.05** City Hospital (S)(∏) (7854673), **10.55** News (T) (4596944) 11.00 Good Living (S) (4506321), 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S)(T) (4516708). 11.55 News (T) (1421857). 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9110418). 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9199925). 12.50 The Weather Show (S)(T) (73964147). 1.00 News (T) (15760), **1-30** Regional News (45261321). 1.40 Neighbours (S)(T) (97277708). 2.05 Ironside (R) (1909596). 2.55

Battersea Dogs' Home (S)(T) (4561654). 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (9050925). 3.45 Bananaman (R) (6207654), 3.50 The All New Popeye Show (9076128). 3.55 Dear Mr Barker (S) (3965215). 4.10 Ace Ventura: Pet Detective (8442465). 4.35 Record Breakers (S)(T) (9623505). **5.00** Newsround (S)(T) (2250383). **5.10** Blue Peter (S)(T) (8973499).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (705166).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (505).

6.30 Regional News (T) (857).

7.00 Weekend Watchdog (S)(T) (6321).

7.30 Top of the Pops (S)(T) (741).

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8.00 Car Wars (S)(T) (2741).

8.30 in Extreme Danger (S)(T) (1876). 9.00 News; Weather (T) (1470).

9.30 Indecent Proposal (1993). Woody Harrelson lends wite Demi Moore to Robert Redford for one night - and a million dollars. Moral and emotional comes under scrutiny (S)(T) (365692).

11.20 The Stand-Up Show (S) (718895).

11.50 Critters 4 (1992). The spiteful, spikev Krites lav in wait aboard a spacepod that's about to be picked up by a ulvage ship (S)(T) (538073).

1.25 Joins BBC News 24 (88694797). To 7am.

BBC2

6.10 Energy at the Crossroads (4320857). 6.35 A Different Way of Learning (8442760). **7.00** Hairy Jeremy (6130673). **7.05** Teletubbles (5131215). 7.30 Yog's Treasure (8063895). 7.55 Smart (1086789). 8.20 Funky Phantom (4974963), **8.45** Johnson and Friends (3260925), **8.55** Tooth Fairies (8902012). 9.00 Hairy Jeremy (4434673). 9.05 Phil Silvers (7906741). 9.30 Great Romances (78166). 10.00 Teletubbies (75654).

10.30 Father of the Bride (1950). Spencer Tracy is the picture of agonised pride as the father of prospective bride Elizabeth Taylor (T) (94708)

12.00 Wildlife on Two (13741). **12.30**Working Lunch (49654). **1.00** Johnson and Friends (21616166). **1.10** Arts and Crafts Hour (9986352), 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (86162876), 2,40 News (6065857). **2.45** On Cue with Steve Davis (2646128), 3.25 News (8810708). 3.30 Gardeners' World (963). 4.00 Change That (9083418), 4.25 Ready, Steady Cook (9086505) 4.55 Lowin (7941031). 5.30 Today's the Day (234).

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (635296).

6.45 Robot Wars (S)(T) (898499).

7.15 Electric Circus (S) (280128).

7.30 Romans in Britain (S)(T) (383).

8.00 The House Detectives (S)(1) (2893). 8.30 Gardening Neighbours (S)(T) (9418).

9.00 The Fast Show (R)(S)(T) (9012).

9.30 Goodness Gracious Me (T) (69418). 10.00 Have I Got News for You (14470).

10.30 Newsnight. (1) (235437). 11.15 Stella. Street (1) (960321).

11.30 GHOGE John Cale. Profile of the composer (S) (34673), See Choice, below

12.30 The Verve Live! (89819). 130 Beware, My Lovety (1952). Ida Lupino melodrama. (79797). To 3am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1190505), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2821296), **10.15** This Morning (T) (882418), **12.15** Granada News (T) 3566383), 12.30 News (T) (76708), 1.00 Home and Away (S)(T) (58007437). 1.25 Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (5796673). 2.10 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (86159302) 2.40 Shortland Street (S) (644627). 3.15 News Headlines (T) (8801050). 3.20

Granada News (T) (8808963). 3.25 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8898586), **3.35** The Forgotten Toys (R) (3989895), **3.45** Captain Pugwash (S) (3342505). 4.05 Bernard's Watch (1255741). **4.20** Fun House (S)(T) (9074760), 4.50 Top Ten of Everything (2658383). **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (6576050). **5.40** News (T) (957692).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (824548).

7.00 Bruce's Price Is Right (S)(T) (8789).

7.30 Coronation Street. Sally is stunned as Kevin drops a bombshell (S)(T) (437).

8.00 The Bill. Beech's corrupt past is in danger of being exposed by Burnside when gangster Jimmy Smith calls in a risky favour (T) (2215). 9.00 Britain's Most Wanted Penny Smith and Dermot Mumaghan present a crime appeals programme with reconstructions

and features on Britain's most wanted criminals (S)(1) (2079).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (18296).

and Caprice are joined by guests including the King – who performs songs by dead rock stars in the style of Eivis (S)

11.30 Tales From the Crypt (91692) 12.00 Furny Girls (5060906). 12.35 God's Gift (S)(T) (3616074). 1.35 Club@Vision (S) (1023635). 2.20 Planet Mirth (R) (6942797). 2.45 seaQuest DSV (R)(S) (2958548), 3.35 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (9198682), 4.25 Cybernet (R)(S) 87678513). 4.50 Nightscreen (4094567). 5.30 News (44068). To 6am.

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (67893).

9.00 Cosby (9531128). 9.35 FILM Bob, Son of Battle (1947). Edmund Gwenn as drunken grouch loved only by his faithful sheep dog (43025586).

11.30 Here's One ! Made Earlier (R)(S)(T) (5673), 12.00 Sesame Street (T) (48437). 12.30 Bewitched (67050), 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (T) (17370). 1.30 Earthscape (45245383).

Slam (1946). This version of The King and I is absorbing as straight drama. With Rex Harrison (17494429).

1.45 Anna and the King of

4.00 Fifteen to One - the Big Winners (R) (166). 4.30 Countdown (S)(T) (9617944). 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (7943499).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (T) (302).

6.00 TFI Friday (S) (42741).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (563925). 7.55 The Political Slot (838370).

8.00 Garden Doctors (T) (5079)

8.30 Brookside (T) (4586). 9.00 Frasier. After witnessing a woman give

birth, Niles practices being a father on a bag of flour (R)(S)(T) (4708). 9.30 Friends. First episode of the sitcom, plus some previously unseen footage and

out-takes (T) (50876). 10.30 Eurotrash. (S)(T) (582857). 11.05 Harry Hill (787925). 11.35 TFI Friday (188470). 12.40 Divine David Presents (5700616). 1.15 Exploitica (24884). 1.45 Nucle on the

3.00 FILM Odd Jobs (1986). Teen comedy about four enterprising kids.

Moon (4091242).

4.25 Dweebs (19730635), 4.55 Pearl (13252180). 5.20 T4 (3814548). 5.55 Sesame Street (9171345). To 7am.

Channel 5

6.00 5 News (S) (6267576) 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6016963) 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (2657963). **7.35** Wimzies House (R)(S) (6229166). 8.00 Havakazoo (7650418). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7639789) 9.00 Floyd Uncorked (S)(T) (3263129), 9,25 Postcards (R) (4198586), 9.30 Oprah (8354215) 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (7392447). 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (8506147). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7633505). 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2254215). 1.00 Bold and the Beautiful (T) (6017234). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2253586). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1534166).

2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2291741). 3.30 Prince of Bel Air (1986). Pool cleaner Mark Harmon services the

swanky suburbs (S) (7656128).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9123760).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2469505). 6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2450857).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1505654) 7.30 Frostrup on Friday. Mariella Frostrup chats to Clive James (S) (2449741).

8.00 Cyclone! Weather report (T) (6600789). 9.00 FILM Lady Mobster (1985). Adopted by a Mafia boss after her parents are killed by mobsters, Susan Lucci grows

up to be a brilliant lawyer (T) (38750925).

10.50 The People vs Jerry Sadowitz.
Unusual talk show (S) (3749128). 11.20 Love Matters (1993). Griffin Dunne and Annette O'Toole struggle to

salvage their marriage (1506692). 1.10 FILM Missing Pieces (1983). Working for the world's weariest private eye, Elizabeth Montgomery uncovers some disturbing evidence relating to the

death of her husband (8596529). 2.50 FILM Pumping fron II: the Women (1985) Documentary about female bodybuilders (7319180).

4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (7371667).
 5.30 100 Per Cent (7199426). To 6am.

UK Gold 7.00 Crossroad: M610809, Z.30 Neighbours 7.00 Crossroad: M610809, K835050, 8.30 The 98

ITV/Regions

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8.00 Open House (78.47789) 9380 Whitch the Socs? (26.700), 9.40 National Goognaphy.

Memory Committee (19.47789) 9380 Whitch the Socs? (26.700), 9.40 National Goognaphy.

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Jery Sormey (201840), 225 Home and Assay (900857), 2.45 Square Maste (1972), 2.25 Today (860857), 2.45 Square Maste (1972), 2.25 Today (860857), 2.45 Square Maste (1972), 2.20 Today (870852), 2.20 Today (870852), 2.20 Today (870852), 2.25 Error (8708), 2.20 Today (820854), 2.25 Error (8708), 2.20 Today (820854), 2.25 Error (8708), 2.20 Today (820854), 2.25 Error (870852), 1.25 Error

Six y Premier 8,86 A Stepper to Love (595) (51492, 8,000 Yazzam 1959, GOSCO: \$0.00 Marion imposable (595) (50302, 12,000 A Stranger to Love (895) 20103, 2,000 We tre Lavy (695) (50205), 2,45 Pales Oragon (977) (5567,2706) 8,000 Yazzaam (596) 92709, 8,000 Haterion imposable (896) 92709, 8,000 Haterion imposable (896) 92709, 8,000 Haterion imposable (896) 97309, 1000 Lest Man Standard (596) (52644) 11,45 The Great White Hype (1966) (34002, 345 The Parez Parrily (1969) (4025) 5, 3,000 3,000 Back Risk (596) (56617780, THIS IS a profile of the composer, producer and former Velvet Underground musician, John Cale (11.30pm BBC2). His father was 3.00 Back Rain (1999) (19617780).

Sky Movie Max.
6.00 Coyde Surmer (1998) (7918967), 7.45 Smeet Revenge (1990) (722574), 9.35 Suddenly (1995) (4997078, 1-100) Mince on 34th Strike (1973) (4997078, 1-100) Mince on 34th Strike (1973) (4995), 8.400 Coyde Surmer (1998) (2225), 3.00 Seesel Revenge (1990) (237073, 5.00) Suddenly (1996) (5020, 7.00) Province (93270, 7.30) Unit (190 Suddenly (1996) (5020), 7.30 May(c (1997), 9.90) Province (1937), 8.30 May(c (1997), 9.90) Province (1996), 1996) (5020), 7.30 Seesel Province (1997), 9.90 Servince (1997), 2.90 Servince (1997), 2.90 Servince (1997), (23770), 3.46 Surmer School (1997), (23770), 2.46 Surmer School (1997), (23770), (a miner and his mother a schoolteacher who drove him to take music lessons. It's a strange upbringing for a man whose viola-playing brought him to the attention of the New York avant-garde, the Velvets, and a clash of egos with Lou Reed. He gets Sky Claients
4.00 Norley Balless* (1937) 89700004
Sky Claients
4.00 Norley Balless* (1932) 29847703, 5.45 Cast
a Clark Stooley (1989) (1988600), 8.00 Morsion*
Beaucaies* (1948) 898470, 19.00 Dept of Hooden
(1979) 8707333, 14.55 The Sear-1,19.00 Dept of Hooden
(1979) 8707333, 14.55 The Sear-1,19.00 Dept of Hooden
(1970) 3.00 The Directors (2279), 4.00 - 4.55
The Grant Align Nurder Case* (1939) 81285432.

FRIDAY CHOICE

very coy about Cale's sacking from the band in 1968, although they have been talking since Andy Warhol's death. Patti Smith and Brian Eno also contribute.

10.30 Granada News (T) (332499). 10.40 Friday Night's All Wright. ian Wright

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SATELLITE & CABLE

FilmFour Filtringur 6.00 Stort Attention Span Chema (200656, 8.00 My Beauthof Laundreite (985) (2006363) (9.09 Feachtabh (9.43321) 19.120 Neer Dain, (1937) (825947), 1,00 Chema (1934) (65.3277) (2.40 The Strawshark Redemotion (1934) (46332567), 3.20 -6.60 Curthuster (533842).

6.00 Gurbuster (316942).

Sky One
7.00 Smbors 56031, 7.30 Ciris Evens (20082).
8.30 Holymood Souares (5923). 9.00 Guilly,
8.30 Holymood Souares (5923). 9.00 Guilly,
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8.30 Holymood Souares (5923). 1.00 Dept of
Our Lives (5985). 2.00 Salv Repind (875837).
9.00 Jerty Jonos (7442234). 4.00 Guilly (5947).
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TUESDAY TELEVISION

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6.00 Business Breakfast (65283). 7.00 News (T) (35467). 9.00 Kiroy (S)(T) (5491026). 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1140080). 10.05 City Hospital (S)(T) 7923757). 10.55 News (T) (4665028) 11.00 Good Living (S) (4675405), 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S)(T) (4678592), 11.55 News (T) (1583641), 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9272202). 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9268009). 12.50 The Weather Show (S) (1) (73026931). 1.00 News (T) (38554). 1.30 Regional News (45330405). 1.40 Neighbours (S) (1) (97339592). 2.05 Ironside (R) (4050860). 2.55 Battersea Dogs' Home (S)(T) (4630738). 3.25 Playdays (S) (9129009).

3.45 Children's BBC: Bananaman (R)(S) (6376738). 3.50 Chuckle Vision (R)(S) (3416134). 4.10 Noah's Island (S)(T) (7098329). **4.35** ht Never Work (S)(T) (9792689). **5.00** Newsround (S)(T) (2329467). **5.10** Aquita (S)(T) (8035283).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(1) (386134).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (486). **6.30 Regional News** (1) (738).

7.00 Holiday (S)(T) (8844).

7.30 EastEnders (S)(T) (950).

8.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman. Real-life tales (S)(T) (7592).

8.30 Only Fools and Horses (R) (3399).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (5793). 9.30 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Jill

Dando invite viewers to help the police shed light on unsolved crimes (84660).

10.15 Omnibus. Profile of the singer and actress Julie Andrews (S)(T) (309405).

11.10 Crimewatch UK Update (561216).

11.40 The Year of Living
Dangerously (1983). Mel Gloson plays
a journalist amid Indonesia's revolutionary

1.15 Joins BBC News 24 (42112852).

BBC2

6.10 Bangkok (T) (4482641). 6.35 A University without Walls (8511844). **7.00**The Little Polar Bear (R)(S) (6209757). **7.05** Telefubbies (S) (5200399). **7.30**Yogis Treasure Hunt (R) (8132979). **7.55** Blue Peter (\$)(T) (1148573). 8.20 Funky Phantom (R) (4043047) **8.45** Oakie Doke (R)(S) (3339009) **8.55** Tooth Fairies (R) (8071196). **9.00** Little Polar Bear (R)(S) (4503757), 9,05 Phil Silvers Show (R) (7075825). 9.30 The Great Romances of the Twentieth Century (1) (91950). 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (21776).

10.30 Joan of Arc (1948). Ingrid Bergman is the maid from Lorraine in this stodgy production (T) (66605739).

12:10 Birds with Tony Soper (R)(S) (9454196). 12:30 Working Lunch (79738). 1:00 Oakie Doke (21778950). 1:10 Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (8532216). 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (S) (86224660), 2.40 News (T) (6127641). 2.45 Westminster (S) (T) (2708912), 3.25 News (T) (8972592) 3.30 Gardeners' World (844) 4.00 Change That (R)(S)(T) (9145202) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S)(T) (9155689) 4.55 Lowri (7010115) 5-30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (115).

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (779221)

6.20 Heartbreak High (S)(I) (620047)

7:10 The O Zone (R)(S) (886405).

7.30 From the Edge (S)(T) (592).

8.00 University Challenge (S)(T) (5134).

8.30 Delia's How to Cook (S)(T) (4641). 9.00 Back to the Floor. A director of a

removals firm tries his hand at moving a

customer for the first time (S)(T) (8825). 9.30 Modern Times. Profile of a young mother who is looking for a way out of prostitution (S)(T) (610863).

10.20 Wrappers (S)(T) (834318). 10.30 Newsnight (T) (816405), 11.15 Seinleid (S)(T) (641738), 11.40 The Larry Sanders Show (S)(T) (946080). **12.00** Despatch Box (S) (68535). **12.30** Learning Zone (88763871). To 610am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1269689). **9.25** Trisha (S)(T) (2983080). **10.15** This Morning (T) (463486). 12.15 Granada News (T) (3635467). **12.30** News (T) (99592). 1.00 Home and Away (T) (58169221). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5865757), 2.10 Coronation Street (R)(T) (5401950), 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (586196). 3.15 News (8970134). 3.20 Granada News (8977047).

3.25 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8950370). 3.35 The Singing Kettle (S) (3058979). 3.45 Wolves, Witches and Giants (R)(S) (3038115). 4.00 Zzzapł (S) (9898301). **4.20** Jurnanji (T) (1329370). **4.40** Timmy Towers - the Christmas Special (S)(T) (1871405). 540 Home and Away (S)(T) (6845134). 5.40 News; Weather (T) (521370).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (8307202).

7.00 Emmerdale. Kathy's temper alienales Biff (S)(T) (3912).

7.30 The Mall (T) (318).

8.00 The Bill. Sun Hill is put on a major bomb alert (T) (1028).

9.00 Grafters. The house is nearly finished but the brothers' business is in tatters. Laura has to choose between Paul and Joe (S)(T) (4592).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (64318).

10.30 Granada News (T) (939405).

10.40 Twins in Black and White. A look at the experiences of twins born of mixed-race relationships who are different colours (T) (657689)

11.40 Renegade (S) (699950). 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5871158). 1.15 Planet Rock Profiles (S) (5424719). **1.40** Highway Patrol (S) (9781622).

2.05 Ghosts on the Loose (1943). Wartime B-pic (7335239).

3.10 Soundtrax (S) (54893451). 3.20 Nationwide Football League Extra (9907500). 4.15 Nightscreen (1479500). 5.30 Morning News (56790). To 6am.

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (51405). 9.00 Cosby (T) (9693912).

9.35 My Friend Flicka (1943). Sentimental tale of a boy who talls for an untameable horse (1) (86500399).

11.10 The Three Stooges (3882028), 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4486), 12.00 Sesame Street (54931), 12.30 | Dream of Jeanne (T) (97134), **1.00** Judge Joe Brown (54592), **1.30** Roots to Success (45323115).

1.40 Five Weeks in a Salloon (1962). Limp fantasy (T) (14531283)

3-30 Collectors' Lot (1) (912). 4,00 Fifteen to One (T) (937), **4.30**Countdown (S) (T) (9786026), **4.55** Ricki Lake (S) (T) (7005283).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (T) (283).

6.00 Harry Hill (1) (196).

6.30 King of the Hill (R)(S)(T) (776). 7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (446467)

7.50 Artranspennine (T) (662047)

8.00 Brookside (\$)(T) (2842).

8.30 Classic Aircraft. A celebration of the Gipsy Moth (S)(T) (6009).

9.00 CHUICS Cutting Edge. A lamily leave the comfort of London for a new life in a remote part of Kenya. See Choice, below (T) (2134).

10.00 The Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rock Star. The band appear on a kids' TV show (T) (301863).

10.45 Adult Ricki. (R)(S)(T) (806028). 11.30 Dope Sheet (T) (212383). 12.05 Late-Night Animated Shorts (596332). 1.50 Joe Public (R)(T) (1905041). 2.25 Real World (R)(S) (2160790). 2.55 Hornicide (9610993). 3.45 Hornicide (S) (6365974)

4.40 Step Lively, Jeeves (1937). Vintage British cornedy (9827121).

5.50 Gustav Looks for a Job (9669784). **5.55** Sesame St (9240429). To 7am.

SATELLITE & CABLE

Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6329660).
7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6187047).
7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2726047). 7.35
Wimzie's House (R)(S) (6381950). 8.00
Havakazoo (R)(S) (7792202). 8.30
Dappledown Farm (7791573). 9.00 The Great Garden Game (R)(S)(T) (3325912). 9.25 Postcards (4250370). 9.30 Oprah (8423399), 10,20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (7454781). 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (8668931). 12.00 5 News (S)(T) (7702689). 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2323399). 1.00 Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (6186318). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2315370). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1696950). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2360825).

3.30 After the Promise (1987). Injustice for itinerant carpenter Mark Harmon during the Depression (7718912).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9292844).

6.00 100 Per Cent (\$) (2538689).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2512641).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1674738)

7.30 Wild at Home. Film about the puffins which return every year to the Shetland isles to feed on eels (S)(T) (2518825).

8.00 Are You Being Cheated? Charlotte

Hudson presents real footage of people cheating (S)(T) (1683486).

8.30 Battle of the Booze - What's the Story? A seasonal look at alcohol and the problems it creates (S) (1695221).

9.00 Color of Justice Provocative drama about a gang of carjacking black teenagers in the Bronx who are responsible for the death of a white suburban woman. With F Murray Abraham (S)(T) (58389641).

10.40 The Jack Docherty Show. Latenight celebrity chat (S) (2053931).

11.20 The Streets of San Francisco (R)(T) (6397979). **12.20** Live and Dangerous (S) (59047790). **3.45** Asian Football Show (9850719). **4.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (8810041). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (7251210). To 6am.

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TUESDAY CHOICE

SAFARI STRIFE (left), this week's Cutting Edge (9pm C4) film, is a portrait of a marriage put under enormous strain when it is transported to Africa. Guy, brought up in Nairobi, has always yearned to return, and has the chance to do so when he is offered a job in remotest Kenya. His wife, Sophie, who's so much of a city girl that she even detests wildlife programmes, is not as enthusiastic, particularly as they have an 18-month-old son, Rufus, to consider. An intriguing look at a relationship placed under the most severe pressure.

5-00 Short Risenton Span Criento ECN-378, 8-45 A K (*15202) 8-00 Ran (1989) (7152527), 19-40 Berry Lyndon (1975) (81-9773), 1-40 Bulle in the Head (1980) 8268774 2-50 Army of Stations (1969) (75-3758), 5-30 - 6-00 Gurbusier (1488238)

Sky Premier
5.06 Solen Women (1956) (25844, 8.00 The Incredible
Journey (1953) (5028), 10.00 About Sarah (1998)
(25734, 12.00 Solen Women (1998) 4992 (2.00 A
Christmas Carol (1984) (190-7), 4.00 The Incredible
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WEDNESDAY TELEVISION

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Sky Sports 3 12.00 Westing #8166651 L08 Fen TV (9431196) 1.30 Fen TV #852299, 2.00 Mater Reong 5783599, 2.30 Dickle Daviest Sporting Heroes 57302947, 3.30

#442822, 2.55 - 200 Snoprig Motosty | Paramocunt Comedy Chanmel | 200 Cuess (660, 230 Demonds 4358, 8.00 Roseane (7080, 8.30 Les Snot Me (615, 9.00 Cydl 85009, 9.00 Series (574, 10.00 Festic (5950), 10.30 Crees, (5879, 11.00 Festic) of Fun (6054, 11.00 Lars (5877), 11.00 To Cite (7397, 2.00 Cydl 9.00 Demonds (10.00 Lars (10.00 L

BBC1 6.00 Business Breakfast (46871). 7.00 News (7) (4552500). 11.00 Good Living (S) (4642177). 11.25 Can't Cock, Won't Cook (4645264) 11.55 News (1487413).

12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9155581). **12.25** Weather Show (S)(1) (73093603). **1.00** News (T) (99332). **1.30** Regional News (45307177). **1.40** Neighbours (97306264). 2.05 Ironside (8355072). 2.55 Battersea Dogs' Home (4527210).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (9016581). 3.45 Bananaman (R)(S) (6263210). 3.50 ChuckleVision (R)(S) (3483806). **4.10** Get Your Own Back (S)(T) (624311). **4.35** The Queen's Nose (S)(T) (9752061). **5.00** Newsround (S)(T) (2223239). **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (8939065).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (805516). 6-90 News; Weather (T) (535).

원 **6.30 Regional News** (T) (887). 7.00 A Question of Sport (S)(T) (8451).

7.30 Tomorrow's World (S)(T) (871). 8.00 The Life of Birds (S)(T) (613055).

8.50 The National Lottery: Amazing Luck Stories (S)(1) (376142).

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (S)(T) (233697).

9.05 News: Weather (1) (995245). 9.35 One Foot in the Grave. Long-

running sitcom (R)(S)(T) ((315245). 10.05 War and Piste (S)(T) (120784).

ras Best of British. Profile of comedian Lenny Henry (S)(T) (256326). Peter Coyote and Courteney Thorne-Smith stars in this thriler (S) (456142).

12.50 Joins BBC News 24 (20952543).

BBC2

6.15 Chinese Cultures (14806). 6.45 The Business of Marketing (3813245). 7.00 King Greenfingers (R)(S) (6276429). 7.05 Teletubbles (S) (5197871). 7.30 Yogis Tressure Hunt (R) (8192351) 7.55 To Me... to You (1115245) 8.20 Funky Phantom (4010719) 8.45 Juniper Jungle (3226581) 8.55 Tooth Pairies (8975968) 9.00 King Greenfingers (R)(S) (4570429). 9.05 Phil Silvers Show (797697). 9.30 Great Romances of the Twentieth Century (45448), 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (86326).

10.30 To Be or Not To Be (1942). Dazzling Ernst Lubitsch cornedy makes light of Europe's dark hours. With Jack Benny (T) (84605559).

adshow Collection (9246887 Roadshow Collection (924687).
12.30 Working Lunch (49264). 100
Juniper Jungle (R)(S) (21745622). 140
Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (7881528). 240
Metch of the Day Greats (S) (86291332).
2.40 News (T) (6021413). 2.45
Westminster (3825055). 3.55 News (T) (9039697). 4.00 Change That (9112974). **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (915061). **4.55** Esther (1840535). **5.25** Today's the Day (8925852). **5.50** Lifeline (T) (178697).

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Sci-fi drama series (S)(T) (147061).

6.45 Stiders. Sci-fi (S)(T) (364581).

7.30 Proud to be Chinese (S)(T) (413).

8.00 Looking Good Special from London Fashion Week (R) (7871). 8.30 Home Front (S)(T) (9806).

9.00 Nurse. The students are at the end of their course, facing assessments and job interviews (S)(T) (752239).

9.50 Naked. Ederly people describe how it feels to have watched their bodies age

over many years (S)(T) (308448). 10.30 A Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (S) (643413).

10.35 Newsnight. (T) (254968). 11.20 Brothers and Sisters (S) (304103). 12.00 Despatch Box (S) (5039036). 12.35 Learning Zone (82950429). To 610am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1229061). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2887852). 10.15 This Morning (T) (991516). 12.15 Granada News (T) (3539239), **12.30** News (T) (36790), **1.00** Home and Away (S)(T) (58136993) 1.25 Home in the Country (5832429) 2:10 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (5478522) 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (233036). **3.15** News (T) (8947806). **3.20** Granada News (T) (8944719).

3.25 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8854142). 3.35 The Slow Norris (S) (3018351). 3.45 The Animal Shelf (S) (3005887). **4.00** Rupert (R)(S) (9036500). **4.25** The Rottentrolis (S)(T) (1304061). **4.40** Mad for it (S) (1848177). **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (6812806). **5.40** News (T) (977852).

5.55 Granada Tonight (1) (8374974).

7.00 Emmerdale (S)(T) (8177). 7.30 Coronation Street. There are fireworks

when Martin bumps into Les (T) (239).

8.00 Find a Fortune (S) (9581). 9.00 FILM Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind. Three-part drama spanning the period from the First World War to the Decression of the 1930s. See

Choice, below (S)(T) (2245). 10.00 A Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (1) (357516).

10.05 News; Weather (T) (115852).

10.35 Granada News (T) (466806).

11.15 The Secret KGB JFK Assassination Files (743413). 12.50 FILM Child in the Night (1990).

10.45 Clive James on TV. Cive takes a look

back at TV medical shows (S) (283429).

Child psychologist JoBeth Williams deals with a young murder witness (629611). 2.35 The Hopeful Traveller (7859369). 3.00 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (7315678). 3.45 Cybernet (S) (99553307). 4.10 Soundtrax (S) (78426956), **4.25** ITV Nightscreen (3790543), **5.30** News (11340), To 6am.

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (16055). **9.00** Cosby (9597784).

9.35 The Revolt of Mamie Stover (1956). Jane Russell fills the ChemaScope screen as a Honolulu dance hall "hostess" who gives the boys want they want during the Second World War (T) (94325993).

11.15 Capriccio (3576719). **11.30** Powerhouse (T) (5061). **12.00** Sesame Street (15719). **12.30** Bewitched (T) (34332). **1.00** Judge Joe Brown (T) (19142). **1.30** Roots to Success (45218239). 1.45 Violent Saturday (1955).
Victor Mature and Richard Egan are just two of the small-town folk whose lives are

disrupted by the arrival of three bank robbers (T) (87056622). 3.20 Collectors' Lot (1) (8855577), 3.50 The Fifteen to One Final (1) (9573784).

4.30 Countdown (T) (9673500). **4.55** Ricki Lake (S)(T) (7909055).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (T) (332). 6.00 Late Lunch with Mel and Sue This week's guests include Eddie Izzard and football guru Ron Alkinson (42351).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (981887).

7.50 Artranspennine (T) (144790). 8.00 Brookside. Anthea's proposal leaves

The Real Hotiday Show. Holidays in America, Pakistan and Butlin's (T) (4974). Johnny Meets Madonna. Johnny Vaughan is granted an audience with Madorina and dares to ask her about

Ron in a state of shock (S)(T) (9239).

turning 40, tracing fame for love and her proposed exile in London (T) (3577). 10.00 Rising Damp (T) (16448).

10.30 Bob and Margaret (S)(T) (29968). 1L00 Whose Line is it Anyway? (S)(I)

(3413). 11.30 The Cornedy Lab (455055). 12.05 Under the Moon (82851104), 5.55 Sesame Street (9137901). To 7am.

Scottish Football (3778), 11.30 Festina (36.115) 12.20 Aerobes (97.10, 12.30 FA Cup (25.00), 2.00 Unimad (9697), 3.00 Soutbal Football (4736), 4.00 Footbal Show (2205), 5.00 Wheeling (325), 4.00 Cortical Show (2205), 5.00 Wheeling (225), 7.00 Footbal Manchester Limited v Orelses (225,75%), 19.35 Cerms (6782), 12.00 Cerms (325,75%), 19.35 Cerms (6782), 12.00 Cerms (33104), 12.35 Football (28785), 1.48 Filosofte (2750), 3.35 Sky Sports Cerms (49148765), 3.20 Close

Sky Sports Centre (#948765) 3.36 Close
Sky Sports 22
2.66 Annotes (#854762, 7.36 Centre (#85632)
2.45 Recing (#05790) 8.85 Fasters (#22245) 8.45 Centre (#56822, 9.00 Fath (#233988) 8.36 Fath for (#95820, 10.06 Storlamping (#34089) 11.00 Inferior (#86427) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Fath (#86428) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Fath (#86428) 12.00 Balle Tent (#86428) 12.00 Fath (#86

6.00 5 News (S) (6396332). 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6154719), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2793719), 7.35 Wimzie's House (R)(S) (6358622). 8.00 Havakazoo (S) (7769974). (830871). 10.20 Surset Beach (S)(T) (9792023). **11.10** Leeze (R)(S) (8635603). SOCIOEF AS GRANAME EXCEPT: 12.20 Herstage (5910351), 12.25 Booter News (595522, 3.20 Border News (595522, 3.20 Border News (595525, 3.20 Border News (565), 12.35 Border News (565), 12.35 Border News (46505).

12.00 5 News (S)(T) (7762061), 12.30 Family Affairs (R)(S)(T) (2210871), 1.00 Bold and the Beautiful (T) (6146790), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2219142), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1663622), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2264697). 3.30 A Stoning in Fulham
County (1988). A bereaved couple
refuse to violate Amish beliefs by

testifying in a secular court of law. Drama with Ken Olin (S) (7612784).

Channel 5

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9269516). 6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2598061).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2416413). 7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1561210).

the latest sounds from London's Sound Republic (S) (2412697). 8.00 Leonardo DiCaprio. Sixty minutes of drooling for ians of the floppy-haired young man. The profile starts with an interview with a 17-year-old Leonardo on the eve of his big break in This Boy's Life.

7,30 The Pepsi Chart. Dr Fox presents

Then comes the story of his career before the record-breaking Titanic (T) (6739245). 9.00 Separate Lives (1994).
Psychologist Linda Hamilton suffers splitpersonality problems. Homicide cop

James Belushi keeps an eye on her in this thriller (1) (6732332). **11.00 Melinda's Big Night In.** Celebrity chat show (S) (2491413).

11.40 Compromising Situations (R) (7200210). 12.15 NHL - St Louis Blues vs Dallas Stars (33566017). 4.40 Club Class (R)(S) (81666475). **5.05** Move On Up (R)(S) (19336746), **5.30** 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (7228982). To 6am.

SATELLITE & CABLE

2.50 Hotel Reserve (1944) (65879949), 4.20 Bards to Batasan (1945) (8046104), 5.50 Close. Battan (1946) (81701.0%) auto-FTIMF-CUF 6.00 Ziggy Stantust (873; 2/25623; 8.00 Choose 20/1/239; 10.00 Choose (894500), 19.00 Precits, Cues of the Desert (8894; 7/1/250; 1455 Bed Unadenum (982) (82/1794; 3.25) King of New York (1990) (4474843; 5.30 Gunduster (245609)

2.30 V. Mar (2000/254) 4.00 Unimized (47536/54) 8.00 Shating (2006/25/2) 7.00 Pah TV (6760/587) 7.30 Pah TV (6784/794) 8.00 Ringside (3899/65) 8.30 University (4775/54) 91.00 Chymrics (2007/54) 10.30 Casses (406547) 11.30 Cose

(RESPECT 10.00 Classes (M08540) Mil20 Gose

UK Gold

T00 Crostnads (1066185) X30 Neighbours

M554623, X55 Escilindars M978061 8.30 The Bit

6714563, 3.00 The Bit 6807805, 3.30 Middlemarch

(923650), 10.30 Angels 8250750, 12.30 Middlemarch

(923650), 10.30 Angels 8250750, 12.00 Dates

6257500, 11.55 Neighbours (920553), 12.25

EastEnders, 6234900, 100 Middlemarch (787053,
2.00 Dates 8892239, 2.55 The Bit 6778760, 3.25

The Bit 6356743, 8.00 All Creatures (9206500,
2.00 Dates (920793, 3.45) EnatEnders 6206600, 4.30

Angels (924794), 8.00 All Creatures (9266500),
2.00 Dates (937079), 2.00 Ton Foot in the Green

630740, 1.20 R Am Hall Hot Mam (904622), 8.20

Dadis Army (7167973), 9.00 Con Foot in the Green

630740, 1.00 Bit gleened (930600), 12.33 Sponder

6300740, 1.00 Bit gleened (930600), 2.30 Only

event Lough (2456662), 2.40 Shopping (487850)

Paramount Cormedy Chapmane) when Lincin (Assessed 2.200 scopping (ASSESSE)
Paramount Cormedy Channel
2.00 Cusess (5637), 230 Desmanda (5633, 8.00
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Rossante (7745) 8.30

ITV/Regions

Anglia
As Grassdin except: 12.20 Angle News
(800503, 1.00 Dinosars (1650), 1.30 Hore and
Assy (2505), 2.00 Hore is the County (88742),
3.25 Angle News (96479), 5.89 Stordard Street
(862806, 6.00 Home and Assy (65796, 6.25
Angle News (22871), 8.35 Angle News (466005,
12.05 Film The Comedy of Terror (74740), 2.35
Hopsil Private (6570502), 3.05 Street (957972),
3.55 Cytemet (6500507), 4.20 Box Orico
America (1670507), 4.30 Box Orico
(6733048), 5.00 Commission Street (44858),
Bondler

Power (505) 19.35 Borner News (466009)
Cerubral
As Erremede except: 19.20 Certifal News
85016(3) 1.00 Ecrit Peru (1500) 1.30 Home in
the Country (806600) 2.95 Home and Away
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8695(9) 1.30 Certifal News (806978) 5.50
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1000(2) 1.43 PM Collect Leve to Paris (25552)
4.50 Lobitorier (2106656) 5.50 Assan Eye (25087

Committee (1968) 1135 Tales from the Crypt (1978) 1148 PH Collins Live in Paris Essenzia. A Substance (2008) 1135 Tales from the Crypt (1978) 1148 PH Collins Live in Paris Essenzia. A Substance (2008) 1148 PH Collins Live in Paris Essenzia. A Substance (2008) 1149 Terminal (1970) 1 gerosacio 4.20 Prime Time (spiscics) 4.48 Bon Vivege (200-5007 4.50 2001-4.00 prime) (2005-2007 4.50 2001-4.00 2001-4.00 prime) (2005-2007 4.50 2001-4.00 2001-4.

Type Tees
As Verkahlre except: 3.65 Viculer (17342),
6.00 Turbit (4858); 10.25 North East News
(46806), 11.25 Lindstatus Goopels (10042),

WEDNESDAY CHOICE TYNESIDE, 1918... Yes, we're unmistakably

in Catherine Cookson territory. Actually, the three part yarn Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind (9pm ITV, left) is a notch above the average Cookson telly saga, thanks, in no little part, to the casting of Niamh Cusack, who was last seen hanging from Nick Berry's arm in Heartbeat. She plays the daughter of a strict Irish Catholic family who shocks everybody by marrying and having a baby with a black merchant seaman (Tony Armatrading - brother of singer Joan).

Sky Premier

8.06 Starley's Search for Livingstone (937) (9587),
8.66 Les He fold (950) (2525), \$0.00 Properts and
the Magic Carpet (1984) (974), \$2.60 Starley's
Source Tot Livingstone (1997) (9730), \$2.00 Myser's
Source Totation 3000, the Movine (959) (959),
4.00 Les He fold (1986) (2588), \$0.00 Properts and
the Magic Carpet (1984) (959), \$2.00 Burry
Normalis Film Right (1988), \$2.60 Properts and
the Magic Carpet (1984) (959), \$3.00 Properts and
(1990), \$3.00 A Mustre of Druss (1998), \$658(2),
11.50 Dead Sierce (1998), \$600(58, 1.30 Surviving)
Prizesco (1994) (9523), \$3.01 - \$1.00 The Duste
of Hoszadd Pourse (1997), \$200(507). of Hezzaid Review (1997) Sky MovieMax 840 Matalia (1997) (1997) 8.07 Machina (1907) (907/3887) 2.5.0 All the Whiters That Have Been (1997) (1982/759) 9.2.0 Say Hard (1983) (1985) 1.4.00 Final of Bean (1965) (1985); 1.000 Whiten the Bod Ferr Drave Part I (1997) (1977) 3.000 Whiten the Bod Ferr Drave Part I (1997) (1977) 3.000 Whiten (1997) (1997) 2.5.00 All the Whiters That Hardboart (1997) 2.5.00 All the Whiters That Hardboart (1997) 2.5.00 All the Whiters That Hardboart (1997) (19

(590) (4478943, 5.30 Guinbuster (465098)
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8.30 Holysucot (500, 7.30 Chrd Einers (57443,
8.30 Holysucot (574781, 8.00 Chrd (57443,
8.00 Chrd Einers (65087), 1.00 Days of
Dur Lives (686509, 2.00 Selly Rephasy (65043),
3.00 Jenny Jones (757780, 4.00 Callyr (6503),
3.00 Jenny Jones (757780, 4.00 Callyr (6503),
3.00 Personal (6504, 2.00 Sellyr (6503),
8.00 Deep Space (6504, 2.00 Sellyr (6503),
8.00 Fersonal (6504, 2.00 Sellyr (6503),
8.00 Fersonal (6504, 2.00 Sellyr (6503),
8.00 Deep Space (6504, 1.00 Fersonal (6503),
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8.00 Ferso Sky Sports 1 2.00 Carton 838/536, 285 Weeting (2006), 9.88 Cartre (846532), 8.30 Pooled (3022), 9.00 Aerokic (8467), 9.30 Pooled (3022), 9.00

SUNDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

7.00 Pink Parither Show (R) (2109619) 7.20 Match of the Day (S) (T) (8987619).

8.30 Breakfast with Frost (S) (T) (49023).

9.30 Advent Hope (S) (9609394). 10.10

The Life of Birds (S) (T) (7971394). 11.00

Porridge (R) (T) (7665). 11.30 CountryFile (S) (T) (8394). 12.00 On the Record (S) (T) (87913). 1.00 EastEnders (R) (S) (T) (4909666). 2.20 App Vr. Being Served? (4392665). **2.20** Are You Being Served? (R)(S)(T) (5532674). **3.00** Poll Winners Party (S) (86281955). **4.35** Children of the New Forest (S)(T) (1810394), 5.05 Lifeline (2384394), 5.15 News (3246329). 5.35 Regional News (429690).

5,40 Songs of Praise. Soul star Ruby Turner introduces a concert of Christmas gospel music at Fairfield Halls in Croydon, south London (S)(T) (284665).

6.15 Last of the Summer Wine. Compo. Clegg and Foggy encounter a bizarre character in the Dales (R)(S)(T) (425042).

6.45 Antiques Roadshow. Hugh Soully and the team set up shop in Lancing College in Sussex, where attractions include a signed Beatles album worth £1,000 (S)(T) (647495).

7.30 999 Lifesavers (S)(T) (752). 8.00 Sports Review of the Year 1998.
The star-studded tribute to sporting achievement reaches its climax with the announcement of the 1998 BBC Sports

Personality of the Year (S)(T) (4936). 10.00 The Mrs Merton Show, Caroline Aheme's after ego incluiges in her own brand of Christmas spirit (R) (40394).

10.30 News; Weather (T) (350477).

10.45 Everyman. Thought-provoking documentary looking at the experience of couples where each partner follows a different religion (S)(T) (153431).

11.35 E[[[[]] Love Story (1970). Ryan O'Neal blubbers over bed-ridden Ali MacGraw in a tear-jerking romance (T) (833329).

1.10 The Sky at Night (S)(T) (5463608). **1.35** Joins BBC News 24 (10184424).

BBC2

7.30 Teletubbles (R)(S) (8455665). 8.10 Wham! Bam! Strawberry Jam! (R)(S) (3314394). 8.25 Artbox Bunch (R)(S) (34)5077). 8.40 Terrible Thunderizards (R)(S)(T) (3396394). 8.50 Fievel's American Tails (R)(S) (8548481). 9.15 Noah's Island (350619) 9.45 The Queen's Nose (S)(T) (1216077). 10.10 The Wayne Marrifesto (R)(S) (7433400). 10.35 Grange Hill (R)(S)(T) (9269435). 10.35 Grange Hii (H)(S)(1) (9269433).
11.00 Sort It (S) (4702503). 11.25
Grange Hii (R)(S)(T) (3832023). 11.50
The O Zone (R)(S) (3444058). 12.05
Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (9235771). 12.30
Robot Wars (S)(T) (79348). 1.00 Around Westminster (47868). 1.30 Sunday
Grandstand (S) (50033348). 1.35 Ski Sunday (846832). 2.20 Crickst – the Aebes (7470143). 2.50 Athletics Ashes (17470145). **2.50** Athletics (4924459). **3.45** Swimming (1971023). **5.10** The Animal Zone (S) (8409665). 5.15 Watch Out Britain (S) (2484348). 5.25 Big Cat Diary (S) (T) (8094936).

5.50 The Natural World (S)(T) (762868).

6.45 Star Trek: Voyager (S)(1) (447477).

7.30 The Money Programme (T) (394).

8.00 Earth Story. Analysing both past and future ice ages (S)(T) (292665).

8.50 Trade Secrets (R)(S)(T) (719690).

9.00 Ray Mears's World of Survival. Specialised fishing in India (S)(T) (8771).

9.30 Clarkson (S)(T) (896752).

10.10 The Car's the Star. Quentin Wilson takes a soin in the Porsche 911 and finds it to be a potent mix of speed and style

10,30 Tx. Life in a tower block (S)(T) (945752).

11.20 Urgent Action (S)(T) (822787). 11.25 Human Rights Season (S)(T) (251110).

12.10 Les Apprentis (1995). Engaging laid-back comedy about two nates who take their bohemian status a little too seriously. With Francois Cluzet, Judith Henry (542917).

2.00 Learning Zone (76495578), To 6.35am.

SUNDAY CHOICE

PAUL WATSON'S challenging documentary about the new South Africa, White Lives

(9pm C4), opens with Derek Venter, an unreconstructed Afrikaner, speaking

direct to camera: "While there's a black on this earth, you will have corruption, you will have murder, you will have theft and you

will have sin. You will have it until the end of time, until there's no more left of them.

And then Christ will come back to this

earth. We will run this country within the next couple of years." This two-part film,

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (70481). **8.00** Diggit (3927935). **9.25** House of Toons (S)(1) (7048771). 9.50 Power Rangers Turbo (S)(T) (9294752). 10.15 Finders Keepers (R)(S)(T) (265597). **10.45** Minty (S)(T) (264868). **11.15** Morning Worship (S)(T) (418905). 12.15 Link (S)(T) (3691023). 12.30 Soccer Sunday (66874). 1.00 News (T) (21801232). 1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (S)(T) (4972459). 2.00 Granada News (T) (68003771). 2.05 The Sunday Supplement (88285771). 2.35 Wild North (4799435). 3.05 The Making of What Dreams May Come True (Š) (6270787). 3.35 The Kids From Live (S) (1066868). 4.05 Christmas At Ballymaloe (S) (9298348). 4.35 Murder, She Wrote (R)(S)(T) (5612619), **5.25** Coronation Street (T) (5832856), **6.20** Cartoon (576508). 6.30 Granada News (588077).

6.45 News; Weather (T) (498400).

7.00 Dog Squad (T) (8400).

7.30 Coronation Street (1) (348). 2.00 You've Been Framed! Camcorder

catastrophes (S)(T) (9348). 8.30 Heartbeat. Maggie questions her marriage when Neil is accused of indecent conduct (S)(T) (24597).

9.30 Cold Feet. Adam is driving Rachel mad by taking a keen interest in their glamorous young neighbour (S)(T)

10.30 Sermon from St Albion's (750413).

10.40 News; Weather (T) (962139) 10.55 The South Bank Show. A profile of

novelist Walter Mosley (S)(T) (762961). **11.55 Sunday Night** (S) (622684). **12.55** In Bed with Medirner (S) (1214917).

1.35 FILM Pm Dangerous Tonight (1990). Daft chiller (262068).

3.15 H2O (36172). 3.45 ITV Sport Classics (99615191). **4.10** Night Shift (R) (25948849). **4.20** Nightscreen (2467627). **5.30** News (67462). To 6am.

Sky Premier 6.05 Farmes Fatales (47,95), 6.20 Mrs. Winterbourne (1996) 63561, 8.20 Deer God (1996) 63663, 19.20 Mrs. Winterbourne (1995) 48023, 3.20 Deer God (1996) 59.48, 5.00 Arter God (1996) 6504, 5.00 Arter God (1996) 6504, 5.00 Arter God (1996) 6504, 5.00 Gargentes (1996) (1996) 6504, 5.20 Gargentes (1996) (1996) 6504, 5.20 Gargentes (1996) (1996) 6504, 5.20 Gargentes (1996) 6504, 5.20

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Channel 4

6.15 Camberwick Green (1) (2810868). **6.35** Frootie Toolies (R) (3980961). **6.45** Dog City (R)(S) (8686348). **7.10** T4 (5349232). **7.35** Tintin (8170139). **8.05** Johnny Bravo (R) (7512868). 8.35 Sister Sister (9457495). 9.05 Wise Up (T) (9665139). 9.40 Planet Pop (9385058). 10.00 The Waltons (R) (T) (41684). 11.00 Hollyoaks (R) (S) (T) (7107394). 12.30 Late Lunch with Mel and Sue (T) (8182431). 1.15 Football Italia (64625969). 3.30 Travelog Treks (3177058).

3.45 The Stencers (1966). Dean Martin as smirking secret egent Matt Helm in the first of several thick-witted comedy adventures" (T) (866435).

5.45 Ride the High Country (1962). Joel McCrea and Randolph Scott in a magnificent Sam Peckinpah wes that casts a tender glow on the stars' careers as range-roving cowboys

7.30 Joe Public. A former member of the Tories vents his feelings about the local Association that disowned him (T) (690).

8.00 The Truth about Art. How art has faced up to the challenge of depicting the face of God (T) (9058).

9.00 GHORE White Lives, Two-part portrait of modern South Africa. See Choice, below (1) (7903416).

10.15 Barb Wire (1996). Pamela Anderson Lee stars in this trashy action film "inspired" by Casablanca. With Ternuera Morrison (S)(T) (551313).

12.05 Babyion 5 (R)(S)(T) (4692530). **1.00** Dark Skies (R)(S)(T) (6902511).

1.55 We Pon't Want to Talk about It (1994). Comedy drama set in 1940s Argentina about Marcello stroignnis hunt for a wife (167694).

3.35 A Paper Wedding (1990). Genevieve Bujold is talked into a marriage of convenience (6638191)

5.05 Louder than Words (R) (2969578).
 5.25 In Conversation With... (7217191).
 5.55 Sesame St (9206085). To 6am.

wood Hall of Faths (722567), 4,00 Government Get* (1945) p637227, 5,30 Cose. Filter-Fourt 6,00 Kovamençasi (1957) (20,070), 8,00 Gun Crizy (1952) (27,0002), 40,00 Linc (1952) (22,5564, 12,00 Carlas Song 1966) (27,207), 2,00 Lashfelt, 12,00 cd (1953) (12,015), 3,40 - 6,00 Rel Fath (1951) (40,0457).

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Channel 5

6.00 Virgin Gardeners (R)(S) (7323481).6.30 Havakazoo (R)(S) (4880416). 7.00 Dappledown Farm (R) (6216503). 7.30 Mikshake! (S) (2855503). 7.35 Wimzie's House (R)(S) (6427706). 8.00 The Best of First on Five (S) (7838058). 8.30 Problem Pregnancies - What's the Story? (R)(S) (7837329). 9.00 Stickin' Around (7748481). 9.30 Fort Boyard (S)(T) (9500684). 10.30 Sister Said (S) (7744665). **11.00** Daria (R)(S) (8059348). 11.30 Singled Out (8050077). 12.00 The Mag (5) (58506961). 1.10 5 News (\$)(T) (89395771). 1.20 The Movie Chart Show (S) (25304987). 1.50 Exclusive (42348752). **3.05** Family Affairs Omnžbus (R)(S)(T) (44266145).

5.20 Car 54, Where Are You? (1994). David Johansen and John C McGinley play misfit New York cops Toody and Mudoon in this retread of the early Sixties sitcom (S)(T) (68609690).

7.00 We Are Family. Documentary series looking at how the traditional concept of the nuclear family is increasingly becoming the exception rather than the rule. This programme focuses on Romanian orphans (S)(1) (1630394).

7.30 Serious Money. Becky Anderson and Mark Jeffries present advice on making the most of your cash, and getting the best deals on everything from mortgages to pensions (S) (2574481).

8.00 Paradise in Peril. Widife series looking at how the amazingly diversity animal and plant species that are unique to the Galapagos islands arrived and how they have evolved since (S)(T) (6808329).

9.00 Deadly Web (1996). Divorcée Gigi Rice is plagued by an Internet stalker in this silly suspense film from Canada. With Ed Marinaro (S)(T) (18804961).

10.45 The Comedy Store (2107706).

11.20 Sports Talk with Steve Scott (S) (800.45): 11.50 NHL: Calgary Flames vs Florida Parithers (S) (31252023). 4.40 Tibs and Fibs (R)(S) (81735559). 5.05 Move On Up (R)(S) (19498530). 5.30 Serious Money (T) (7397066). To 6am.

bal Lasgue - Live Porsmouth v Grissby (1903941). 3.00 Budenister Besteithel (55.2229, 8.00 H20 grassA33, 5.30 Pool (3fers03, 6.30 Spansh Footas S200256, 8.30 Footbal Lasgue Reven +0404435. 8.30 Foot Footbal Spacial Wintbedon v Luxerpool 8.7795394, H30 Fizibol Hundel (478967,71 H.30 Ur-belleable Sports (65654042), 12.00 Close

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MONDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (20443), 7.00 News (T) (23733), 9.00 Kiroy (S)(T) (5424356), 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1180608). 10.05 City Hospital (S)(T) (7956085). 10.55 News (T) (46983 11.00 Good Living (S) (4608733). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (4601820). **11.55** News (T) (1523269). **12.00** Pass the Buck (S) (9205530). **12.25** Going for a Song (S) (9291337). 12.50 Weather Show (S)(T) (73066559). 1.00 News (T) (26620). **1.30** Regional News (45363733). **1.40** Neighbours (S)(T) (97362820). **2.05** Ironside (R) (6250248). **2.55** Battersea Dogs' Home (S)(T) (4663066).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (9152337). 3.45 Enchanted Lands (R)(S) (6323646). 3.55 Bodger and Badger (S) (3067627). 4.10 Alvin and the Chipmunks (9166795). 4.40 Goosebumps (S)(T) (2769443), **5.00** Newsround (S)(T) (2352795), 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (8068511).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (858004).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (337).

6.30 Regional News (1) (917). 7.00 This Is Your Life (S)(T) (7269).

7.30 Here and Now (S)(T) (801).

8.00 EastEnders. Peggy makes a shock

discovery about Grant (S)(T) (6917). 8.30 Birds of a Feather. The day of

Garth's wedding arrives (S)(T) (5424). 9.00 News; Weather (T) (5646).

9.30 Harry Enfield (R)(S)(T) (23882).

10.00 Panorama. The current-affairs programme investigates the tragic rise in suicides among young men (946153).

10.40 They Think It's All Over. Knockabout sports quiz (S)(T) (657917). #115 Escape From Terror (1994).

Whirtwind romance leads to a violent

marriage. With Maria Pitillo (S) (874733).

12.45 Joins BBC News 24 (20098399). To 6am.

DDC2

paints a grim picture.

6.35 A Different Way of Learning (8544172). **7.00** Wiggly Park (6232085). **7.05** Teletubbies (S) (5233627). **7.30** Yogis Treasure Hunt (A)(S) (8165207) 7.55 Blue Peter (S)(T) (1171801). 8.20 Funky Phantom (S) (4076375). 8.45 Romuald the Reindeer (R)(S) (3362337). 8.55 Tooth Fairies (R)(S) (8004424). 9.00 Wiggly Park (S) (4536085). 9.05 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (7008153). 9.30 The Great Romances of the Twentieth Century (R)(S)(T) (30172). 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (89801).

10.30 FILM Jane Eyre (1944). Striking cinematic version of Emily Bronte's Gothic romance (1) (26005135).

12.05 The Roadshow Collection (S) (9202443), 12.30 Working Lunch (41288). 1.00 Romuald the Reindeer (R)(S) (217/8578). 1:10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (4237004). 2:10 Match of the Day ats (S) (86264288). 2.40 News (T) (6167269), 2.45 On Cue with Steve Davis (S) (2731240), 3.25 News (T) (8905820). L30 Gardeners' World (R)(S)(T) (795). 4.00 Change That (R)(S)(T) (9178530) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S)(T) (9188917), 4.55 Lowri (S)(T) (7043443). 5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (406).

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (163849).

6.25 Space 1999 (T) (177608).

7:15 Hit, Miss or Maybe (R)(S) (359004).

7.30 Sound Stories (S)(T) (443). 8.00 CHOICE Quentin Willson's Bangers and Cash. Quentin Wilson joins the US Coast Guard. See Choice,

8.30 Food and Drink (S)(T) (3066).

9.00 The Natural World (R) (861337).

9.50 Trade Secrets (R) (986288).

10.00 Big Train. Sketch show (S)(T) (16004).

10.30 Newsright. (T) (371085). 1.15 On Air. The Truth about TV (S) (781608). 12.00 Despatch Box (S) (14047). 12.30 Learning Zone (88809627). To 6:10am.

MONDAY CHOICE

FANCY A half-price Rolex watch or a yacht

at a knock-down price? Or a genuine

Salvador Dali? Then Miami, Florida,

should be your destination - or at least.

this entertaining one-off film Quentin Willson's Bangers and Cash (8pm BBC2).

Willson is in Florida to attend an auction

of property seized by the US customs from drugs dealers, and the stuff ranges

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1292917). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) 1292360A). 10.15 This Morning (T) (928066), 12.15 Granada News (T) (3668795), 12.30 News (T) (38714), 1.00 Home and Away (S)(T) (58109849). 1.25 Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (5898085). 2.40 Coronation Street (R)(T) (86251714). 2.40 Shortland Street (S) (1792379). 3.15 News Headlines (T) (8903462). 3.20 Granada News (T) (8900375).

3.25 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8990998), 3.35 Titch (R)(S) (3072559). 3.50 Sooty and Co (S)(T) (3425882). 4.15 Art Attack (S)(T) (942066). 4.45 Sabrina, the Teerage Witch (S)(T) (9716269), **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (6876462), **5.40** News (T) (724838).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (8330530).

Turner visits the little-known indonesian island of Lombok (S)(T) (2337). ronation Street. Ashley enlists

7.00 Wish You Were Here ... ? Anthea

Nick and Gary on a mission to save Zoe from Ben's clutches (T) (269). 8.00 Strange but True? More true-life

stories of the supernatural (1085). 8.30 Great Escapes (S)(T) (3820).

9.00 FILLIE Philadelphia (1993). Lawyer Tom Hanks is sacked for having Aids. He hires homophobic Denzel Washington to represent him in court. (S)(1) (6627).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (37630).

10.30 Granada News (T) (636789) 10.40 Philadelphia. Conclusion of

tonight's film première (S)(1) (7420646). 12.00 Stuff the Week (S) (5162318), 12.35 Nationwide Footbali League Extra (3718486). 1.35 World Football (9799641). 2.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (R) (7343554), **2.45** Club@Vision (S) (861134), **3.25** Trisha (R)(S)(T) (9047115). 4.10 Soundtrax (R)(S) (25908221), 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (2434399). 5.30 Morning

News (80282). To 6am.

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6.00 Moter Knote Best (1997) [79443], 8.00 Old
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6,00 The War of the Ross (1958) [5745221].

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (16443). 9.00 Cosby (9626240).

9.35 The Last Days of Dolwyn (1949). Edith Evans stands up to vindictive property developer (1) (94398849).

11.45 Words from My Father (3532375). 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (R)(S)(T) (9849), **12.00** Sesame Street (87153). 12.30 | Dream of Jeannie (T) (36356) 100 Judge Joe Brown (8674849). 1.35 Poots to Success (45346066).

150 The Constant Husband (1955). Amnesiac Rex Harrison awakes to discover he's a bigarnist (T) (87000443).

3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (191). 4.00 Fifteen to One (998), 4.30 Countdown (9719356). 4.55 Montel Williams (S)(T) (7038511).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (S)(T) (462).

6.00 Roseanne (R)(S)(T) (375).

6.30 Hollycaks (T) (627). 7.00 News; Weather (T) (658443).

7.55 Artranspermine (T) (135646).

8.00 Planet Ustinov. On the last leg of his epic journey, Sir Peter reaches South Africa (1) (7733).

9.00 White Lives. The final part of Paul

Watson's two-part documentary on the new South Africa (1) (3956998). 10:10 Adult Ricki (T) (886207).

11.00 When Saturn Returnz. A profile of drumin/bass artist Goldie (36207).

12.00 Chris Rock: Bring the Pain (2502283). 1.15 Bushwick (8743592). 1.50 Phat Nation (9709029), 2,20 Booked (R)(T) (3040134), 3,00 Dispatches (R)(T) (9021134).

3.55 Here Comes the Sun (1945). Vintage comedy (7128825).

(2216080), **5.35** Droopy (3000496), **5.55** Sesame Street (R) (9273757), To 7am.

Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6369288), 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6110375). **7.30** Mikshake! (S) (2759375). **7.35** Wirnzie's House (R)(S) (6321578). 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (7725530). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7724801). **9.00** The Great House Game (R)(S)(T) (3358240). **9.25** Postcards 4290998). 9.30 Oprah (8456627). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2643199), 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (8608559), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7735917), 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2356627). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (6119646). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2355998). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1636578). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2393153).

a boffin devolved to primordial levels by mad government scientists bent on

persuading him he's an alien (1) (7741240).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9225172). 6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2561917).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2552269). 7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1607066).

7.30 Wild at Home. Wiklife documentary about the Loire Valley (S)(T) (2541153).

8.00 Floyd Uncorked. Keith Floyd tours the vineyards of France (S)(T) (1616714). 8.30 Weather Front. Katie Ledger presents a series about the weather along with meteorology experts Paul Simons and Chris Thomoroft (S)(T) (1635849).

9.00 FILM Americanski Blues (1995). Wayne Crawford is mistaken for an FBI agent on holiday in Moscow. Trashy post-glasnost action (S)(T) (38852337).

10.50 Chart Update (S) (8988627)

10.55 Rothing in Common (1986). with caring for his alling, grumpy dad Jackie Gleason (29963462).

1.15 NFL: Live San Francisco 49ers vs Detroit Lions (S) (85457912) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (5066329) 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (7364738), To 6am.

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8.30 He/O (247172); 8.00 Choise (47275); 11.00 Close South Aincia V West Indias (176274); 4.00 Crident Australia V England (482276); 8.00 Crident Australia V England (482276); 8.00 Crident Australia V West Indias (482763); 8.00 Crident Australia V Repland (5904-5); 8.00 Crident (482676); 8.00 C Siky Cineethse
4.00 Hyerg Down to Ro (1933) (7632976) 6.00 No Highway in the Sky (1957) 8048587), 8.00 The Rain Poodse (1969) (0010982) 100.00 The Milagro Bearthaid War (1967) (040559), 12.00 Earth vs the Plying Sauces (1966) (765909), 12.00 The Directors (8779467), 2.30 The Duchess and the Ulmaster Fox Sky Sports 3 12.00 Bulletter Barlon

SATELLITE & CABLE

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from speed boats and VCRs to an 80ft freighter. While waiting for the bidding to begin, he takes to the waterways with customs officers.



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SATURDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (976-998MHz FM) 7.00 Mark Goodier. 10.00 Chris Moyles. 1.00 Lisa l'Anson. 3.00 Radio 1's R 'n' B Chart. 5.00 Judge Jules. 7.00 Danny Rampling - Lovegroove Dance Party. 9.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 12.00 Radio 1 Reggae Dancehall Nite. 2.00 The Essential Mix: M&S. 4.00 -6.30 Annie Nightingale.

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Mo Dutta. 8.05 Brian Matthew. 10.00 Steve Wright's Saturday Show. 1.00 What's the Bleeding Time? See Pick of the Day. 1.30 Love 40 - New Balls Please. 2.00 Alan Freeman. 3.30 Johnnie Walker. 5.30 Paul Gambaccini. 7.00 Bruce Springsteen: the Other Side of the Tracks. 8.00 Beverley Craven in Concert. 9.00 Sweet Soul Radio 2. 10.00 Bob Harris. 1.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 - 7.00 Mo Dutta.

(902-924MHz FM) 6-00 On Air. 9.00 CD Review. 11.00 Building a Library. 12.00 Private Passions. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert (R) 2-00 Best of 3. 3.00 Youth Orchestras of the

RADIO 3

4.15 The Finishing Touch. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests 6.90 And His Mother Called Him Bill See Pick of the Day. 6.30 Opera on 3. In Bizet's opera based on the novel by Prosper Merimee, a young soldier called Don Jose is manipulated by a beautiful and wilful gypsy girl who involves him in a life of crime and inflames his murderous jealousy. The opera is set in the streets and taverns of Seville and the hills of Andalusia, and its strongly coloured background of builfight-ing, smuggling, knife-fighting and RADIO 4 flamenco dancing still makes it one of the most popular operas 6.10 Open Country. 6.57 Weather. ever written. Beatrice Uria-Monzon, soprano (Carmen), Hei-Kyung Hong, soprano (Micaela), New York Metropolitan Opera 7.00 Today. 9.00 Home Truths. Shorus and Orchestra/David Robertson. Act 1.

SKY PREMIER

6.00 Switching Channels (1988) (60305). **8.00** The Angel of Pennsylvania Avenue (1996) (76183). **10.00** Karate Kid II (1986)

(69218). **12.00** The Barry Norman Interview (24657). **12.30** Switching Channels

Pennsylvania Avenue (1996) (133251), 4.00 (2741) 6.00 Infinity (1966) (37595102), 7.35 The Barry Norman Interview (34483), See Pick of the Day.

8.00 The Nephew (1995) (76522). See Pick of the Day. 10.00 A Murder of

Crows (1998) (748560), 11.50 An Eye for

an Eye (1996) (657164). 1-35 Another 48

Hrs (1990) (147400), 3.40 . 6.00 Nina

(79312725). 7.45 Ebirah - Horror of the

Deep (1966) (934218). 9.15 Blue Rodeo (1996) (44022947). 11.00 Little Miss

Per sipe (1995) (69893). 3.00 The Last Sec. Sar (1990) (92928). 5.00 Blue

Periscope (1995) (87681), 9.00 Pretty in

(1991) (11006676), 12,30 White Palace

Pink (1986) (57953744). 10.40 True Colors

(1990) (416961). 2.10 Less than Zero (1987)

(405077). 3.45 - 6.00 Big Town (1987)

11.00 Destination Moorr (1950) (2974367). 1.00 Sherlock Holmes and the Scarlet

Claw (1942) (3402522), 2.30 Gypsy (1962)

(4545831), **5.00** Caught (1949) (8242025). **6.30** Whols Got the Action (1962)

(2507473). **8.00** Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (1975) (9189638). **10.00** Honky-

tonk Man (1982) (86108744). 12.05 The

Last Hard Men (1976) (9640023). 1.45

Scarlet Claw (1942) (38617226). 4.40

6.00 Godziła Raids Again (1955) (21129676). 7.35 Gunbuster (3479580).

8.00 A River Runs through it (1992)

1220925(). 10.00 Outz Show (1994)

(4979787). 3.05 - 6.00 Rude Boy

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Wings of Tomorrow (3783251). 5.00 Battlefields (8302589). 7.00 The Liners

Featuring the Clash (39255042).

(16952367). **12.15** Poison (1990) (5093787). **1.40** Straight to Hell (1986)

P. Smer of Second Avenue (1975) (3-3464). 3.25 Sherlock Holmes and the

You're Telling Me (1934) (47571313). 5.45

(89934752)

FILMFOUR

SKY CINEMA

Millions (1992) (69247). 1.00 Down

Rodeo (1996) (84580), 7.00 Down

Takes a Lover (1995) (37819508).

6.00 The Last Best Year (1990)

SKY MOVIEMAX

(1988) (31241724). 2.15 The Angel of

PICK OF THE DAY

figures in the world of jazz this tunes that Ellington came up evening: The Armstrong Tapes with, here he is rescued as a (8pm R4) follows the life and composer in his own right. thoughts of Satchmo (right) through recorded conversations. famous, though highly influential partner. Often considered as

fiction.

lace-Crabbe.

11.30 Jazz on 3.

(924-94,6MHz FM)

6.00 News Briefing.

6.05 Sports Desk

Op 99

7.55 Carmen, Act 2.

8.30 The Met Opera Quiz.

Jellinek and Brian Zeger.

9.00 Carmen, Acts 3 and 4.

questions to Cori Effison, George

series in which Michael Rosen in-

troduces the latest reviews, per-

formances and interviews from

the world of poetry. This week, he

talks to Australian poet Chris Wal-

10.45 Debut. Kate Gould (cello),

Viv McLean (piano). Martinu: Vari-

ations on a Theme of Rossini.

Brahms: Cello Sonata No 2 in F.

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

10.00 News; Double Vision.

11.00 News; Food Programme.

TWO BIOGRAPHIES of major the man who wrote down the

Graeme Garden claims, in What's the Bleeding Time? And His Mother Called Him (1pm R2), to have gone in for Bill (6pm R3) is about a less comedy because he wasn't funny enough to be a doctor. Here he figure - Billy Strayhorn, thought digs up old comedy clips with of as Duke Ellington's junior a vaguely medical connection. ROBERT HANKS



7.25 New York Stories. Through-**11.30** From Our Own out the century, the bright lights Correspondent. 12.00 News; Money Box. of New York have attracted some 12.30 True Lies. of the world's finest writers, and our own time is no exception. 12.55 Weather. In a nine-part interval series of **100** News. specially commisioned works for Radio 3, novelists, essayists and 115 Any Questions?. 2.00 News; Any Answers? 0171 playwrights who have moved to New York present portraits of the 580 4444. 2.30 Riotous Assemblies. (R) city through fiction and non-

3.00 News; The Saturday Play: The House by the River. 4.00 News; Weekend Woman's 5.00 Saturday PM. 5.30 Talking Pictures. 5.54 Shipping Forecast. William Livingstone puts listeners' 5.57 Weather. 6-00 Six o'Clock News. 10.15 Best Words. The last in the

6.15 The Now Show. 6.45 Hearing with Hegley. (R) 7.00 Saturday Review. 7.45 Keyword. Matt Frei highlights a word from a foreign language which captures the essence of that country and its culture. 1: The Spaghetti Incident."

8.00 The Armstrong Tapes, Jazz historian Helen Mayhew looks at the remarkable life of Louis Armstrong as told through his archive of tape recordings made throughout his long and colourful career. See Pick of the Day. 9.00 News: The Classic Serial:

Bleak House. By Charles Dickens, dramatised in five parts by John Dryden. 2: Strange things begin to happen when a law writer is found dead in his seedy lodgings near the courts from an overdose of opium. Known only as Nemo,

his death attracts a surprising amount of attention, not least from Lady Dedlock, who hides a painful past. With Claire Price and Michael Kitchen.

10.00 News and Weather. 10.15 Education 2000. A forum which tests plans to improve the country's education system by the early years of the next century. Edward Stourton asks the panel and invited quests whether teachers are the villains or the victims of the education system. 11.00 News; Rebel Music. The first of two programmes examining the year of protest - 1968 through the eyes of four musicians whose songs provided the soundtrack for a generation. Country and folk singers Country Joe and Judy Collins discuss the rallying power of music seen from both sides of the Atlantic. **11.30** Fine Lines. (R) 12.00 News. 12.25 Experimental Feature:

Irreversible. 12,30 The Late Story: Rumpole and the Absence of Body. A John Mortimer mystery, read by Bernard Cribbins. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast.5.40 Inshore Forecast.5.50 • 6.00 Bells on Sunday.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast.

RADIO 5 LIVE 1693. 909kHz MW) **6.00** Dirty Tackle. 6.30 Breaktast. **9.00** Chiles on Saturday. **11.00** Move it. 11.30 The Back Page. 12.00 Sportscall 1.00 Sport on Five. 6.06 Six-O-Six. **8.00** Dallyn UK, 9.00 The Treatment. Stuart Maconie and guests review the week's news.

10.00 Late Night Currie. Edwina Currie with the weekend's big issues, including sport in depth at 10.30, and a news briefing at 11.00. Phone 0500 909693. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (1000-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Lucas. 8.00 Countdown. 11.00 Masters of Their Art. 12.00 Mike Read 3.00 Margaret Howard 6.00 Classic FM at the Movies. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Opera Guide. 10.00 The Classic Quiz. 12.00 Midnight Music. 2.00 Evening Concert. 4.00 - 6.00 Sunday Start.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.00 Jeremy Clark. 9.00 Harriet Scott. 12.00 Classic Countdown with Russ Williams. 2.00 Rock and Roll Football with Chris Evans. 6.00 Wheels of Steel 10.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 6.00 Richard West. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO**

(198kHz LW) 1.30 On Your Behalf. 1.45 Sports Roundup. 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Music Review. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Review. 315 Sports Roundup. 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent.
4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Global
Business. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 6.00 Jazzmatazz.

TALK RADIO 6.00 Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin. 9.00 Wendy Lloyd. 11.30 Danny Baker and Danny Kelly. 1.00 Saturday Sport. 3.00 Nationwide League Live. 5.30 Danny Baker and Danny Kelly. 7.30 Nancy Roberts. 10.00 Mike Allen. 2.00 - 6.00 Mike Dickin.

12.50 Film: Asylum (1972) (28059684)

2.20 Best of the Old Grey Whistle Test (44590435), 2.50 - 7.00 Shopping with

6.00 Thy Living (42540831). 9.05

Tempestt (4590928). 9.55 Rolonda (5328831). 10.45 Special Babies

(1561909), 11.15 Living It Up! (2931473).

12.45 Ready, Steady, Cook (7007367).

1.20 Michael Cole (8194725). 2.10 The

Roseanne Show (4331831). 3.00 FBm:

Tender is the Night (1962) (28358299).

For the Love of Aaron (1994) (9108763).

Beyond Bellef: Fact or Fiction (7745893).

8.00 Rescue 911 (7766386), 8.30

5.05 Hart to Hart (1713725). 6.00 Film:

Screenshop (31336481).

LIVING

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

JON SPEELMAN

AS CHRISTMAS and the winter solstice approach, so too comes the force of nature that is Gary Kasparov. Hurricane Gazza will sweep through London next week with a simultaneous display for the Kisharon School for special needs children at 6.15 at the Berkeley Hotel in London on Wednesday evening. A very few boards are still available for this event at the not inconsiderable price of £5,000 for five people, from David Rosenberg -0171-631-1303.

Kasparov will also be launching an internet-based service. Play Games Now! for the BT games network Wireplay on Thursday, and can be seen from 1.30pm onwards at

http://www.wireplay.co.uk/chess/. Although he has shined in sideshows - particularly the 7-1 demolition of the Israeli national team in two clock simultaneouses in May -1998 has not been a particularly good year for Kasparov.

In Linares in March he was only third equal with Kramnik, behind both Anand and Shirov. At the start of May he did have one magnificent result with a comprehensive 4-0 victory against Veselin Topalov in a quickplay match in Sofia. But their rematch in Leon in Spain in June in so-called (by Kasparoy) "Advanced Chess, in which both had the aid of computers, went right to the wire. And in the Frankfurt quickplay a week later he narrowly avoided the

indignity of last place. Since then, Kasparov has appeared only in the 4-2 match victory against Jan Timman in Prague in September, where he was effective but not scintillating; and his 24-game workout against Vladimir Kramnik earlier this 18 Rhe1 Rge8

month, even if only at blitz, certainly showed some "match fitness".

The scarcity of play is certainly not all Kasparov's fault, since only the collapse of the World Chess Council scuppered the projected match against Alexei Shirov in October for his Professional Chessplayers Association world championship title. Nevertheless, he still needs to show something soon. Some more like this - his only win in Linares - would do wonders.

Anand tried a new idea in the opening - 11... Rg8 inviting complications after 12 Bxh6 Nf6 13 Qg5 but Kasparov ignored him. In his notes. Kasparov implies that Anand should have tried 16... Bxb2!? Anand's position deteriorated rapidly after several inaccuracies, especially the weakening 19... g5? At the end. Anand lost on time. though it would be hopeless anyway after 3...Qg5 36 Qxg5 hxg5 37 h6.

White: Gary Kasparov Black: Viswanathan Anand Caro Kann Defence

19 Kb1 g5? 2 d4 d5 20 h4 Bf4 3 Nd2 dxe4 21 Bxf4 gxf4 4 Nxe4 Nd7 22 Bf5 Nf8 5 Ng5 Ngf6 23 Qh5 Kb8 6 Bd3 e6 24 Bxe6 Nxe6 7 N1f3 Bd6 25 at Qe7 8 Qe2 h6 26 Qe5+ Qc7 9 Ne4 Nxe4 27 Qh5 Qe7 10 Qxe4 Qc7 28 b3 Qf6 11 Og4 Rg8 29 Ne5 Re7 12 Nd2 Nf6 30 Ng4 Rxd1+ 13 Qf3 e5 31 Rxd1 Qg7 14 dxe5 Bxe5 32 (3 Re8 15 Nc4 Be6 33 Qf5 Ka8 16 Bd2 0-0-0 34 h5 Rf8

35 Rd7 1-0

BRIDGE

17 0-0-0 Nd7

WEST FOUND a good defence against South's game on this deal and fully deserved his success. The interesting question, however, is whether declarer could have improved on his line of play.

West opened Three Diamonds and, after two passes, South bid Three Spades. As this overcall was in the protective position, it was doubtful whether North should have moved. However, he found a sporting raise to Four Spades and all passed.

West started with a crafty OQ. The idea was that, if his partner happened to win the trick with his ace, his attention might be drawn to a club return. It was South, however, who turned up with OA, and he continued with SK to East's ace. The significance of the first trick was not lost on East and he played back . West ruffed with S10 and switched to ♥3.

Declarer won East's queen with his ace and drew trumps. Then he led a heart. His idea was to duck in dummy, when either an even heart division or a possible red suit squeeze on West might provide his tenth trick. Now West defended shrewdly by following with ♡10. This prevented his partner being left on lead with the nine. Declarer duly ducked in dummy, but West led

†74 ♥K762 ♦8653 ♣AJ5 East **•**106 **♠**A83 ♥J 1083 **♥Q9** ♦KQ109742♦J **♦**KQ87642 🗭 none South **◆KQJ952** 7A54 ΦA.

Love all; dealer West

North

another round of hearts to break up any chance of a squeeze.

It was certainly good defence by West, but a more resourceful declarer might have succeeded After West had ruffed with • 10, he seemed to be marked with a 2-4-7-0 distribution.

If South had ducked the first round of hearts completely and won the second round in hand, then A and the rest of the trumps would have left West without a good discard, squeezed with K and the heart guard in front of

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

(right) would ever have achieved the owner of the local bar. the sort of status he now enjoys if he had remained as TV's Remington Steele. The Barry Norman Interview (7.35pm Sky Premier) with Pierce Brosnan is followed by the premiere of The Nephew (8pm), a drama young man from New York who Snowman. returns with his mother's ashes

IT'S AMAZING the clout that to the remote island of Inis Dara. being James Bond brings you. He creates a stir upon starting It is unlikely that Pierce Brosnan an affair with the daughter of

Snow has a cutesy image but as "Blizzard", tonight's Raging Planet (8pm Discovery), shows, it can be deadly. It has caused the death of thousands of people and the mass extinction of animals. It's all a far cry from the benign produced by Brosnan, about a feelings conjured up by The JAMES RAMPTON



(5837102), 8.00 Reging Planet (5813522). See Pick of the Day, 9,00 Extreme Ma-chines (5833386), 10,00 Forensic Detec-tives (5836473), 11,00 Battlefields (9318763), **1.00** Weapons of War (Scorohed Earth) (7384139), **2.00** Close.

SKY ONE 7.00 Bump in the Night (85469), 7.30 Street Sharks (11744), 8.00 Adventures of Sinbad (23725), 9.00 The Simpsons (11)83), 9-30 Count Duckula (56744). 10.00 The Best of the Chris Evans Show (17928). 11.00 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire (97164), 12,00 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun (46367). 1.00 The New Adventures of Superman (55015). 2.00 The Newlywed Game (6183), 2.30 The Nawlywed Game (3102) 3.00 MASH (5218) 3.30 MASH (5947) 4.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (60473) 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (9270). 6.00 Xena: Warrior Princess (35251). **7.00** The Simpsons (7299). **7.30** The Simpsons (1367). **8.00** 3rd Rock from the Sun (89096). 9.00 Space: Above and Beyond (92560), 10.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (70837), 11.00 Star Trak: Voyager (18657). 12.00 Showbiz Weekly (23329). 12.30 The Big Easy (83435). 1.30 Fire (86077). 2.30 - 6.00 Long

Play (3271936). **SKY SPORTS 1** 6.00 Golf - Presidents Cup (68251). 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (62638). 8.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (63657). 8.30 Racing

News (62928), 9,00 Gillette World Sport Special (46980). 9.30 Golf - Presidents Cun (758580), 12.00 Gliette Soccer Saturday (7199183). 5.30 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (62096), 7,00 ketbali (69305). 9.00 Saturday Fight Night (22725). **11.00** Max Power (65589 **12.00** Futbol Mundial (63961). **12.30** -7.30 Golf - Presidents Cup (6528023).

Indies (4838947). 11.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (8922386). 11.30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (7811270), 4.00 Internation al Cricket Australia v England (7058580). 6.00 H2O (9406218). 6.30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (4386725), 8,00 International Cricket Australia v England (6006299), **10.00** Rugby Union - Allied Dunbar Premiership Sale v Gioucester (6097034). 11.30 Gillette World Sport Special (4817454). 12.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (2050042). 2.30 Second Innings (5597961), 3.00 - 7.30 International Cricket Australia vs England (4931868). SKY SPORTS 3

SKY SPORTS 2 7.30 Racing News (3653589), 8.00 Hold the Back Page (7660270), 9.00 International Cricket South Africa vs West

8.00 Soccer AM (20626367). 12.00 Wild Spirits (74413541). 12.30 Sports Unlimited (50902299), **1.30** Ford Rugby Union Sale vs Gloucester (54862305), **4.00** Gillette World Sport Special (93019183), **4.30** Goff Presidents Cup (54853657). 7.00 Futbol Mundial (67908299), 7.30 Spanish Football - Live (79253299). 10.00 Burtweiser Raskethall (47608812) 12.00

EUROSPORT 7.30 Xtrem Sports: Yoz Action (2314015). 8.15 Cross-Country Sking (8747980). 9.30 Alpine Sking (9074270). 10.45 Bobsleigh (9589367). 11.00 Biethion (39164). 12.00 Cross-Country Skiing (99560). **1.00** Biethlon (75980). **2.00** Luge (26541). **4.00** Swimming (73183). 5.30 Ski Jumping (57164), 7.00 Snooke ters in Bingen (54473). 9.00 German Mas Boxing (27270). 10.00 Curling (99909). 12.00 Fitness (21058), 1.00 Close.

UK GOLD 7.00 Blg Break (6317837), 7.30 Neighbours Omnibus (59199724), 9.25 Dallas Omnibus (91146299). 12.10 East-Enders Omnibus (20861947). 3.00 The Bill Omnibus (88344893). 5.20 Waiting for God (1819218). **6.00 Film:** The Four Muskeleers (1974) (5814251). **8.00** Saturday Night Comedy: The Brittas Empire (7508522). 8.40 Saturday Night Cornedy: Black Adder the Third (2229183). 9.20 Saturday Night Comedy: Red Dwarf IV (5272034). 10.00 Saturday Night Cornedy: Men Behaving Badly (9181034). 10.40 Saturday Night Cornedy: One Foot in the Grave (7880454). 11.20 Saturday Night Cornedy: Blackadder's Christmas Carol (6483015). 12.15 Saturday Night Cornedy: The Man from Auntie (6021936).

9.00 Jerry Springer Double Bit (9179251). 11.00 The Sex Files II (1893164), 12.00 Close. TNT 9.00 Blow-Up (1966) (65504270). 11.00 Marlowe (1969) (51555270). 1.00 Once a

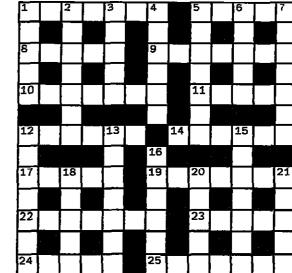
Thief (1965) (51440394), **3.00** Blow-Up (1966) (14161348), **5.00** Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Clueless (8183). 7.30 Desmonds (2251) 8.00 Roseanne (7831) 8.30 Just Shoot Me (3638) 9.00 Films Clean State (1994) (20367). 11.00 Dressing for Breaklast (16676). 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (37218), 12,00 Duckmar (61503). 12.30 Vacant Lot (50955). 1.00 Comedy Store (74771). 1.30 Club Class (92619), 2.00 Dr Katz (68771), 2.30 Soap (50706), **3.00** Hooperman (67435), **3.30** Nightstand (41058), **4.00** Close.

GRANADA PLUS 6.00 The Box (9752831). 7.00 The Cuckoo Waltz (8182305). 7.30 Leave It to Charle (8161812), 8.00 Holding the Fort (8874367), 8.30 Mind Your Language 8873638), 9.00 Gladiators (2570522) 10.00 The Persuaders (8157096), 11.00 El Extreme Close-Up (4210386). 11.30 Jeeves and Wooster (8642386), 12.30 Mission Impossible (6413102) 1.30 Emmerdale (6819831) 4.00 Film: Staleg Luft (2062638) 6.00 The Persuaders (8759638). **7.00** Mission Impossible (2807763). **8.00** Jeeves and Wooster (2883183). 9.00 The Cornectians (4290522). 9.30 The Wheeltappers' and Shunters' Social Club (8754183). 10.00 The Odd Couple (8878183), 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (8887831), 11.00 Granada Men & Motors (1096657). 2.00 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3792 Saturday 12 December



ACROSS

1 Prevailing meteorological conditions (7) Hebridean isle (5) French wine (5)

Small rounded particle 10 Oil from wool (7) 11 Yellow pigment (5) 12 Latitude (6) 14 Honourable (6)

17 Twangy (5) 19 Imitator (4-3) 22 Alpine pass (7) 23 Freshly (5) 24 Prolix (5) 25 Kingfisher (7)

DOWN

12 Mediaeval weapon (7) 13 In abundance (7) 15 Win or place (4,3) 16 Singe (6) 18 Direct (5) 20 Part of door (5) 21 Attempt at testing limits of tolerance (3-2)

High mountain (7)

Ship of the desert (5) Holy smoke? (7)

Moving cautiously (b)

Cancel (5)

Coarse (5)

Pair (7)

Solution to vesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Prime, 4 Airily (Primarily), 9 Nourish, 10 Expel, 11 Meek, 12 Explode, 13 Ear, 14 Pain, 10 Reel, 18 Hot. 20 Ability, 21 Apsc, 24 Kebab, 25 Nacelle, 26 Deepen, 27 Baton, DOWN: 1 Panama, 2 Inure, 3 Edit, 5 Inexpert, 6 Improve, 7 Yelled, 8 Sheer, 13 Enviable, 15 Amiable, 17 Marked, 18 Hyena, 19 Demean, 22 Pitot, 23 Scab.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 England except: 4.40 Final Score (2814947), 4.55 Northern Ireland Results (2893454), 5.25 Newsine (8535034).

BBC! SCOTLAND As B2C1 England except: 4.40 Atternoon Sportscene (7:86102) 5.25 Reporting Scotland (8535034) 10.35 Sportscene - Match of the Day (6321386).

BBC1 WALES As BBC1 England except 4.40 Final Score (2814847) 4.55 Wales on Saturday - the Results (2893454) 5.25 ales on Saturday - the Magazine (4087096).

ANGLIA ANGLIA
As LWT except: 12.30 Pirate TV
(12386): 1.05 Anglia News (7111947).
1.40 Bugs Burny Overtures to Disaster
(57483367): 2.40 Airwolf (7032102): 3.05
Going Wild (1243657): 3.15 Film: The Man
in the iron Mask. D'Artagnan sets out to
rescue the half-hoother of Louis XIV. rescue the han-broader of beastile.

Convertent restaging of the Alexandre
Dun includescic, but it tacks the sheer
verve of the old Louis Hayward version. With Richard Chamberlain, Patrick

McGochan. (\$7607522). 5.10 Anglia News and Sport (3496163). 12.05 Film: Police Academy. Misfits and welndoes enrol in the city's police training scheme. Comic chaos ensues in the smutty slapstick style of an American Carry On. The first of a long-running series of crude comedies and pointing out that it's the best really isn't saying very much. (453232). 1.45 Firm: Into the Badlands. Veteran bounty hunter Bruce Dern recounts three strange stories of the Old West in the manner of Grim Prairie Tales. It's a somere collection, the best episode being The Time of the Wolves, with Lisa Pelikan, Mariel Hemingway. (164226). 3.15 New Baywatch (7496597). 4.05 Box Office America (87992145). 4.30 Not Fade Away (73961). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (54394).

CENTRAL As LWT except: 12.30 Premiere (12386). 1.05 Central News and Weather (7111947). 1.40 Early Edition (7356102). 2.25 Airwolf (5375589). 3.40 Film: The 22.25 Anwor portosos, ase Plan. The 300 Spartens, Epic toga party as Richard Egan, Ralph Richardson and Diane Baker retive the Greeks v Pensians kerturfile at Thermopylea. (25163386). 5.50 Central Naws, Weather and Goals Extra (2496183). 8.35 News; National Lottery Update; Weather (748270). 3.50 Jobfinder (3943400). 5.00 Spotlight Asia (54394). HTV WALES

As LWT except: 12.30 Playing for Time (1238), 1.05 HTV News (7711947). 1.40 Movies, Games and Videos (97483367), 2.40 World of Wonder 86380270). 2.40 Airwolf (6124837). 3.30 seaCuest DSV (8475909). 4.20 RoboCop (3676102). 5.10 HTV Wales News and Sports Results (2496183). 12.05 Film: Police Academy (453232). 1.45 Film: Into the Badlands (464226). 3.15 No Baywatch (246597). 4.05 Box Office America (87992145). 4.30 Not Fade Away (73961). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (54394).

HTV WEST
As HTV Wales except: 12.30
Sportsweek (12386). 1.40 No Naked
Flames (97483367). 2.10 Movies, Games
and Videos (86380270). 5.10 HTV West
News and Sports Results (2496183). MERIDIAN

As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaurs (12386). 1.05 Meridian News and Weather (7111947). 1.40 Beach Volleyball (97483367). 2.10 Bugs Burny's Mad World of Television (5570034). 2.45 Film: Petes Dragon. Poorly executed combination of

cartoon (the dragon) and real actors in a sub-standard Disney saga with songs. OK for kids (14097386). 5.15 Meridian News and Weather (240402). 8.35 News; National Weather (2404020). 12.05 Film: Police Academy (453232). 1.45 Film: Into the Badiands (464226). 3.35 New Baywatch (7496597). 4.05 Box Office America (87090245). 4.30 Not Farle Away America (87992145). 4.30 Not Fade Away (73961). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (54394). WESTCOUNTRY

As LWT except: 12.30 Movies, Games and Videos (12386). 1.05 Westcountry News (7111947). 1.40 Hollywood's Greatest Siturits (7375386) 2.35 Cartoon (6576560). 2.50 Film: Pete's Dragon (47318676). 5.30 Meeter prity News (2496183). 12.05 F Pete's Dragon (47318676), 5.20
Westicountry News (2496183), 12.05 Film:
Police Academy (463232), 1.45 Film: Into
the Badlands (464226), 3.15 New
Baywatch (7496597), 4.05 Box Office
America (87992145), 4.30 Not Fade Away
(73961), 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (54394).

YORKSHIRE As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaurs (12386), 1.05 Calendar News (7111947). 1.10 On the Ball (58234589), 1.35 Graneda News and Weather (50052473). 5.05 Calendar News and Weather (8517638). 5.10 Scoreline (2496183). As Yorkshire except: 1.05 North East News and Weather (7111947). 5.05 North East News and Weather (8517638). 5.10 Full Time (2496183). As Channel 4 except: 6.00 Sesame

Street (21560183), 12.00 Hidden Kingdoms (38445386), 2.05 Y Clwb Rygbi (65950562), 5.15 Newyddion A Chwaraeon (35112251), 5.20 History Hunters (44015638), 6.15 Film: Midfild - Y Marif (20177795), 3.45 Newyddion Mwfi (2907)725), 7.45 Newyddion (55500473). 8.00 Noson Law (21979305). 9.00 Achabachyn: Diwed y Gem (76928725). 9.45 Streetmate (71021096). 10.15 Film: The Babysitter. Ctueless star Alicia Silverstone a passive object of desire in suburban drame, the flip side of The Crush (in which Alicia made all the predatory moves). It's a witless work, duly scripted and acted with a fine ear for every cturking cliché. With Jeremy London, J.T. Walsh. (26764305). 11.55. Humdrum (98449541). (2004-305). 11.55 Paurito United History (2015). 12.15 The Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rock Star (95560705). 2.55 4 Later: Erotic Tales (67143752). 3.15 NYPD Blue (94101329). 4.10 Hill Street Blues (27706394). 5.05 Closs.

JASPER

REES

TELEVISION REVIEW

Tales of

BBC1

7.30 Children's BBC: Terrible Thunder (5538676). 7.40 The Wizard of Oz (

Newsj Weather (T) (2419034), 5.25 Regional News and Weather (8535034), 5.30 'Allo! 'Allo! (R) (T) (454).

6.00 Jim Davidson's Generation Geme. Lionei Blain a guest, you'll be surprised to learn (5) (1) (16639).

7.00 Noel's House Party. Wealthy bearded prankster holds court in mock mansion (S) (1) (138015).

The National Lottery Draw. The Spice Girls and Placido Domingo upstage Dale Winton (S) (T) (795893)

100

9.00 Men Behaving Badly. Another chance to see last year's disappointing Christmas special (802164).

s, Weather (1) (267676)

ly Red Live at the Lyceum. Mick Hucknall usicians continue to hold back the years etc in this led concert (430473).

.45 Ciive Anderson Ali Taik (S) (T) (23042). **Top of the Pops** (S) (T) (8783110). **Joins BBC News 24** (79476481). To 7am

BBC2

3.85 Urgent Action (S) (9204909). **4.00** The Virginian (R) (2630299).

5.15 TOTP 2. Abba, Culture Club, Blondle and ABC from the archives, although given the present conreback culture, it might as well have been last week (S) (8882676).

lippa Gregory te wealth that

7.50 What the Papers Say (S) (258947).

9.00 Have I Got News for You (S) (T) (3878)

11.40 Urgent Action (70183). 11.45 Human Rights Season
 – the Debate (S) (432831). 12.35 The Cops (4323394).

(Charles Chaplin 1925 US). vn 1942 re-edited version of

11.30 Recor of the Year Preview (699299).

12.05 [][M] Inapi co Texas Adlos (Ferdinando Baldi 1966 It). Is the word as Franco Nero avenges his father? I this undercocked pasta western (968436). Police Academy (Hugh Wilson 1984 US) ps comedy which has been on TV so many lost people could lip-sync it (186058).

Box Office America (49888874). 3.50 CD UK (S) (6433329). 4.45 Night Shift (49585085). To 4.50am.

GMTV (1321473).

from Cardiff take sound like they (S) (T) (125270). (T) (748270).

10.00 **Drop the Dead Donkey.** Another chance to see the last ever episode. Sally prepares for her final bulletin and married bits, Dave and Henry are at daggers drawn, George readles himself for a new life (78454).

11.05 Eurotrash (965809). 11.36 The Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rock Star (447763).

Weekend Tonight (T) (3288541). **5.25** ITN norts Results; Weather (T) (8511454).

rs. Ulrika Jonsson and Jeremy Guscott is year's grand final, as Exeter waiter Dave 1 Liverpudian rugby league player Neil Parsley unter, Falcon, Wolf, Diesel and the lads (S) (T)

te. How dld Sementha and Terry get on in Badly, we hope (S) (T) (763725).

10.30 is it Legal? The team makes a horrifying discovery as they read through some box files from 1979. Probably the gags for tonight's show (S) (T) (780831).

12.20 4 Later: Tottenham 2 (3872874). 12.50 4 Later: Mod Squad (2855329). 1.17 4 Later: Angry Kid (2245690). 1.20 4 Later: Doos Strange – Blessing and Curse (5581058). 1.45 4 Later: Mod Squad (12836). 2.15 4 Later: Transamblent TV (3188077). 2.55 4 Later: Erotic Tales (R) (T) (7853139).

ve (S) (42800812). 11.30 CD UK (S) (80893). S (12386). 1.00 ITN News: Weather (T) 1.05 London Weekend Today (T) (7111947). Ball (T) (58217812). 1.40 World Powerboat ships (8780454).

Record of the Year Preview. Denise van Outen Introduces the 20 hit singles shortlisted for the title Record of the Year 1998. Results next week (608947).

7.00 Storm Force. Extreme weather conditions – a new growth area in TV which has been blowing in from the States. Tonight's programme examines avalanches, and looks at this year's ice storm which wreaked havoc in Canada and the US (T) (8473).

8.00 Booked. David Asronovitch and Nigella Lawson are joined by authors Alain de Botton and Andres Ashworth. Plus an interview with Nobel Prize winner Seamus

shful Thinking. A look at female neurosis (708152)

9.00 The Real... Tojo. A look at the life of Japan's political and military leader at the time of Pearl Harbor. General Hideki Tojo. Portrayed as a brutel dictator in the mould

NYPD Blue (R) (7483023). 4.15 HIII Street Blues (R) (4833042). 4.55 Future Quest (88615233). To 5.05am.

Channel

Jhannel

(6375744), **7.30** The Magic School Bus (57522), **8.00** Biker Mics from Mars (R) (74638), **8.30** The Vibe (73909), **9.00** Morning Line (S) (42763), **10.00** Gazzetta Football Italia (R) (T) (86034), **11.00** Transworld Sport (T) (3648980), **11.14** Angry Kid (2755875), **12.00** Hidden Kingdoms (22763).

(R) (S) (4813744). 7.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6249831). 7.30 Milyshake! (S) (2888831). 7.35 Wimzies House (R) (S) (6450034). 8.00 Lassie (S) (7861386). 8.30 Wishbone (R) (S) (7860657). 9.00 The Enid Blyton Secret Series (8683909). 9.35 The Incredible Hulk (7883367). 10.30 Loggerheads (S) (7840833). 11.00 The Pepsi Chart (R) (S) (T) (8082676). 11.30 Singled Out (8083305). 12.00 The Mag (S) (4373473). 1.50 5 News (S) (T) (4813015). 2.00 Blast (S) (1785034).

40 Channel 4 Racing from Cheltenham and Doncaster. Brough Scott and Derek Thompson introduce the 1.10 and 1.40 from Doncaster and the 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40pm from Cheltenham (17855015).

혅

History Hunters. Coventry was apparently a world centre for watch-making in the 19th century. Tony Robinson marshals three teams of amateur local historians to find out more (1) (7560454).

5.05 Brookside Omnibus. Ron gets more than he bargained for when he fights Mike's corner, Mike, Megan and Jacqui learn the truth about Anthea's affair. Benny offers Joey a deal in exchange for silence. All that and and Jacqui tearn the truth about And offers Joey a deal in exchange for stots, lots more (R) (S) (T) (5886367).

6.00 Hercules ~ the Legendary Journeys. Having fallen deeply in love with the beautiful Serena, Hercules asks her to marry him. Ash (S) (7654744).

5.55 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (2696744).

3.30 Sunset Beach Omnibus. Before he gets married to Meg. Ben finds out that Maria is alive (R) (S) (82726837)

Sportsweek on 5. Gall McKenna Introduces soccer you can call It that) from Liverpools Uefa Cup drubbing the feet of Cefta Vigo, plus goals from the Dutch and Brazillan leagues (S) (2439909).

6.30 Right to Reply. Roger Bolton with viewers' complaints (T) (657).

7.45 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (6832170).

8.45 Jolly Roger. Short animation (T) (277367). 8.05 Xemat Warrior Princes: saving the village of Laurel t protection money, or stoppli from looting the village of Pi (S) (6326638).

90 Thriller about a Boeing 7

10.40 III El Condor (John Guillermin 1970 US). Desperados cackle madly at each other as they search the Mexican desert for hidden gold. Lee Van Cleef and Jim Brown are the leading meanles (84572265).

12.35 IIII The Private Files of J Edgar Hoover (Larry Cohen 1977 US). Sleazy biography of the crossdressing FBI supremo, hugely assisted by a meaty cast: Broderick Crawford (as Hoover), Dan Dalley, Jose Ferrer and Rip Torn (37602664). 2.40 IIIII Dangerous Afternoon (Charles Seunders 1961 UK). Ex-con in B-movie blackmall grief (6896228). To 3.40am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

PROFILE OF THE DAY

DAVID CASSIDY - TEENAGE DREAM (9.45pm BBC1, ng/n) Will be unmissable for anyone - women especially - of a certain age. His hair may be less "confident" now in fact, it's plastered down in a rather cheesy side-parting), and eyes less puppyish, but David Cassidy is still alive and well. He helps relive the years of madness, when he could wriggle into polyester jumpsuits and fill the Hollywood Bowl or Wembley Stadium with traumatised teenagers (and pre-teenagers). Judzing from the

Together they're packed with energy

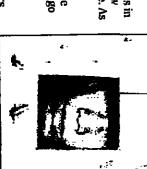
TONIGHT AT 6.05 PM ON ITV

Don't miss the Final



DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

AMNESTY (8pm BBC2, ngh) Annesty International wathe news this week, preparing to try and block Jack Stranhad he attempted to send General Pinochet back to Child part of the Human Rights Season, Armosty has allowed cameras to follow its work for the first lime since its formation in 1001 (based in London, it is denled charitable status and is funded by its million or so subscribers). We on the beat with two researchers—one in Season the latest and the content of the status and the season the season to the season to

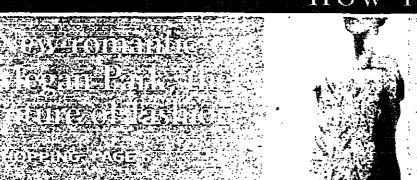


FILM OF THE DAY

Manipulative? Yes. Evasive? Yes. But Jim Sheridan's 1983 film about the Gulldford Four is thumpingly righteous and blugeoningly passionate as it brings the right sort of anger to the re-telling of one of the worst miscarriages of justice in British history. The police and the IRA are both demonised as Sheridan concentrates on the human relationship between Gerry Conion (Daniel Day-Lewis) and his father, Guiseppe (Pete Postlethwaite). No matter that they were never actually imprisoned together, the dramatic licences seem justified. Only Emma Thompson's solicitor strikes the wrong chord.











Many happy (tax) returns!

Two hundred years of income tax may not be everyone's idea of something to celebrate, yet 100 people a day are visiting the Revenue's birthday exhibition. Paul Slade reports

modern life worth celebrating, few people would raise a cheer for income tax. But now that the tax has reached its 200th birthday, the Inland Revenue is throwing a party. Despite its site in the mid-basement level of Somerset House, the

Revenue's Bicentenary of Income Tax exhibition is pulling in about 100 visitors a day. Attractions include the Tax Trivia game, and a chance to review all your favourite self-assessment TV commercials. The exhibition is aimed at every-

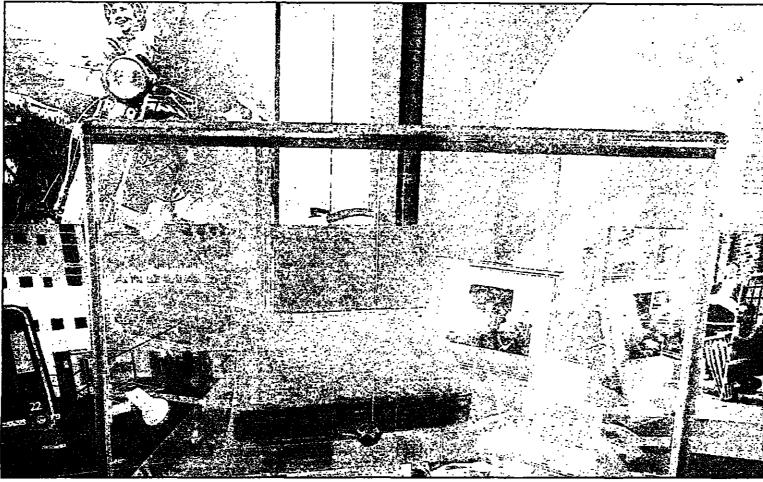
one, from parties of schoolchildren to tax professionals. Nigel East, one of the organisers, says: "The history income tax is really just the history of Great Britain, and the exhibition mirrors that. People hate paying income tax, but they do like the things it buys."

Income tax remains - in theory, at least - a strictly temporary phenomenon. It was originally introduced as a means of funding the Napoleonic wars, and must be reinvented by MPs with each year's Finance Act, But that fact only scratches the surface of the useless information on view at Somerset House. Here, then, are Things You Never Knew About

● Immoral earnings - The Emperor Caligula levied a tax on Roman prostitutes in a bid to recoup some of his considerable spending on

• Your own business - Concerns about privacy did not start with the sprouting of security cameras in every high street. It was also a real rn when income tax was first proposed. Nigel East says: "Up until income tax was introduced, you could make a huge pretence at great wealth - or, alternatively, you could make out you were penniless. The great fear was that people would see you were a great deal more wealthy than you were letting on, and that your relatives would find out ..."

dicators of wealth as chimneys,



As the song says: 'It ain't no use to worry/ you've got to face the facts/ The cause of all the trouble/ is the income tax'

windows, hair powder, servants and dogs. The dog tax, like income tax itself, was first charged around the end of the 18th century as one of a number of efforts to raise money for the ongoing Napoleonic wars.

Nigel East says: "It was all done on the scale of your household. A big house would be expected to have a large number of dogs, just as it would be expected to have a large number

Tax assessors had the job of sneaking around potential taxpayers' homes at dead of night. They would then kick loudly on the front door and assess the amount due from the volume of barking within.

● Barking mad – UK taxes in the past ● A golden age – For 26 glorious have been levied on such bizarre in- years, between 1816 and 1842, Britain had no income tax.

The tax was repealed by Parliament in the year after the battle of Waterloo to the sound of "a thundering peal of applause" in the Palace of Westminster. Parliament decided that all documents related to the tax should be pulped, though not before copies had been sent to the

King's Remembrancer. But by then, the damage had been done, as income tax had proved a practical means of raising revenue. In 1912, the Conservative prime minister Sir Robert Peel, reintroduced the tax for those with incomes above £150 a year, and it has been with us

● Face the music – East's prize find for the exhibition is a Thirties' musichall song called "The Cause of All the Trouble is the Income Tax". It was written by Great Rex Newman and a year, tax started disappearing from Noel Gay, who describe its tempo as pay packets before workers had seen "slow and sad". The final verse runs: Makes me sick, dirty trick, These income tax officials

are a bit too thick! Гd a shock, postman's knock. He said 'I've brought your third and final note. old cock',

Down, down, pay cash down, I paid my first instalment with my last half-crown.

But it ain't no use to worry. you've got to face the facts. The cause of all the trouble is the income tax.

workers, income tax started in 1944, when Pay As You Earn, or PAYE, was introduced.

the money. Anyone on more than £100 a year was sent a note of their tax code; P45s were introduced for those changing jobs. In the five years to 1944, the standard rate of income tax rose from 29 per cent to 50 per cent, the 10 million people paying tax became 14 million, and the total take rose from £440m to £1.4bn

The man to thank for the introduction of PAYE was Chancellor Sir Kingslev Wood, who dropped dead on the very day that the new system was announced. Good.

■ War wound – For many British Bicentenary of Income Tax', Somerset House, Strand. London WC2. 10am-4.30pm Mon-Fri. until 14 Jan. Closed 18 and 24-29 Dec. and 1 Jan. Instead of collections once or twice Admission free (0171-438 7890)

BARGAIN HUNTER



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK A cottage with a past

AT THE front, there is an unsightly corrugated iron roof, it needs a new kitchen and bathroom... and probably around £20,000 spent on it to make it perfect. But Baymon is a Grade II-listed detached cottage with parts dating back to the 16th century, and is set in a third of an acre at Monk Sherborne, five miles from Basingstoke in Hampshire. It has three double bedrooms, two reception rooms and a downstairs bathroom, and there is also scope for extension at the back, subject to planning permission. There has just been a price reduction of £35,000, so it is for sale at £200,000 through Lane Fox (01256 474647). ROSALIND RUSSELL

CAR OF THE WEEK It's child's play

CHEAPEST NEW car on sale in the UK today? It's the Malaysian Perodua Nippa EX at just £4,999. It has sideimpact beams, height-adjustable headlamps, a clock, engine immobiliser and an optional glove-box. Sounds horrible and it is, being nothing more than a rehashed Daihatsu Mira. Despite having a waiting list, it certainly isn't our car of the week. Because, for just £700 more, a nearly-new 1998 state-of-the art supermini can be yours. Empire Park, which is based in Stoke-on-Trent (01782 866866), has a limited stock of 60 R-registered Fiat Punto 60S models for just £5,699. Oh, and they are throwing in £100 of Toys R Us vouchers. How very

JAMES RUPPERT

DEAL OF THE WEEK A healthy future

FINANCIAL COMPANIES are not launching new products, so bargains are thin on the ground. But here is a snippet. CS Healthcare, a friendly society started by civil servants in 1929, specialises in offering health insurance to public-sector staff, those in privatised firms, and their families. Basically. CS offers two cheap health insurance schemes. CORE is a low-cost plan covering in-patient and out-patient care, including home-nursing after treatment, plus cash benefit for overnight hospital stays. A single person, aged 27, would pay £16 a month. A more comprehensive plan would cost £29 a month. Very good value, Call 0181-410 0400. Last week's number for Torquil Direct Choice Pensions was incorrect. It is 0800 0561836)

The cut-price Ombudsman

Government proposals for the financial services watchdog are causing alarm. By James Moore

CONSUMERS WHOSE com- schemes, including the Perplaints to a new financial services watchdog are judged to be "unreasonable" may be forced to pay a hefty bill, under recently published Govern-

ment proposals.

The draft Financial Services and Markets Bill says the new Financial Services Ombudsman scheme could order complainants to pay for "improper or unreasonable conduct". Payments would be made both to the scheme and companies themselves.

The proposals would also allow costs to be charged for "delay which the complainant could have avoided had he acted reasonably". Financial advisers whose clients complain to the existing financial services watchdog, the PIA Ombudsman, are required to pay 2500 towards the administrative work involved in dealing with the claim.

The Ombudsman will be created from eight existing

sonal Investment Authority. Banking, Insurance and Investment Ombudsmen. But consumer groups, and

the Ombudsmen themselves. want the proposals dropped. Under the current system. complaining to an Ombudsman costs nothing. The PIA Ombudsman rules in favour of only around half of the complaints to it, the Insurance Ombudsman about a third. Michael Lovegrove, press

officer for the Insurance Ombudsman, says: "We had a case where a man complained because his insurance company sent him a cheque for £50. He claimed for £55 so they sent him another cheque for £5 but he demanded an actual cheque for £55 and brought it to us. The complaint was clearly unreasonable, but I do not believe in awarding costs. The scheme provides an informal means for resolving complaints. Costs could put people off."

Unit Trusts



On the side of the consumer: Tony Holland

Motoring

Property

tion (CA) is lobbying the taken to the Ombudsman who Government to drop the proposals. Philip Telford, the CA's senior money researcher, says: "It is a ridiculous departure from the current system, and... could stop a lot of people using the Ombudsman."

made to the company con-

The Consumers' Associa- mains unhappy the case can be can award compensation if the complaint is valid.

Rulings are usually binding on companies, but if the Ombudsman rules against the complainant, they pay nothing. Financial services companies Complaints must first be argue this is unfair and consumers ought to pay something cerned. If the complainant re- towards costs if their com-

plaints are deemed frivolous. But Tony Holland, Ombudsman for the Personal Investment Authority, warns the proposals could turn the Ombudsman into a new court when it is supposed to prevent people having to take legal action: "This could create uncertainty in people's minds. and may put them off bringing a complaint. This would make it more like a court."

Mr Holland fears for people who cannot afford to pay being ordered to stump up costs under the proposals.

The new Ombudsman scheme, while operating at arm's length from the Financial Services Authority, will still be seen by many people as its consumer redress system.

A Financial Services Authority spokeswoman says: "We are working closely with the Treasury on the development of the Bill, and this is one of the issues we will be discussing with them."

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FOR DETAILS AND AN APPLICATION FORM PLEASE CALL

CHASE DE VERE

-INVESTMENTS PLC -

Wealth and ill health

son find themselves having to cope with a difficulty most of us say "will never happen to me". James is 56 and was diagnosed with Huntington's chorea, a degenerative disease, five years ago. He is a qualified electrician, was selfemployed for most of his working life and has worked at Rover since 1986.

Brenda was a senior teacher until the stresses of helping her husband with his disease resulted in her leaving the teaching profession, although she works part-time as a receptionist. They have two children, one of whom is still financially dependent upon them. This should probably cease in June, releasing about £500 a month.

The couple's income is about £2,500 a month. This includes disability living allowance and rent of £280 from a lodger. Total monthly outgoings are about £2,570 and they have built up a bank overdraft over

Brenda and James are self-confessed "poor savers" and have almost no emergency account or savings at present. However, James has inherited £65,000 from his parents, and their aim is to use this money to improve their situation overall

The adviser: Martha Cattheral is an independent financial adviser at City Independent Financial Planning, 3 Tolpuddle Street, London N1 0XT

The advice: Increasing income is important as it is highly likely that James will have to retire on grounds of ill health at some point. His income annum to £4.685 per annum (in other words his ill-health retirement pension), reducing the monthly budget after tax by £650.

He may also qualify for monthly incapacity benefit of about £280. If this should occur after June 1999, their outgoings will have already reduced by approximately £500 per month.

James and Brenda have a £60,000 mortgage with Portman Building Society. There are no penalties if they reduce or change their mortgage, on which they currently pay about £500

I would advise that they should

FINANCIAL MAKEOVER

NAMES JAMES AND BRENDA STEVENSON AGES 56 AND 51 OCCUPATIONS ELECTRICIAN AND PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST



will then be reduced from £16,000 per In need of a holiday: James and Brenda Stevenson

John Lawrence

use £15,000 of the £65,000 inheritance cent. This would cost £170.67 a month on paying debts, carrying out house on an interest-only basis, and £223.68 repairs, setting up a £2,000 emergency account and having themselves a well deserved holiday. Of the remaining £50,000, I would

suggest that £25,000 should go on reducing the mortgage from £60,000 to £35,000. James and Brenda can then look to remortgage the remaining £35,000 either with the Portman Building Society or, alternatively, the Nationwide Building Society, which currently offers a build up some capital which could be

for a repayment loan. These rates are over a 25-year term. The loan also allows repayment of capital without penalty should further monies become available or if interest rates go un again.

The interest-only option, simply servicing the loan, means the mortgage is repaid on the sale of the property. James and Brenda could invest £50 a month into a PEP/ISA to two-year discounted rate of 6.15 per used towards the repayment. A £50

monthly investment at a rate of return of 9 per cent will produce roughly £8,110 over 10 years. Alternatively they could opt for a repayment mortgage, which looks to repay capital and interest over time.

This reorganisation will reduce Brenda's and James's outgoings by £300 per month, depending on which option is chosen

I recommend the remaining £25,000 is invested in the following manner: £3,000 should be added to an existing £2,000 in their emergency account, giving £5,000.

practice of designatory letters,

once aimed at informing

account should be Standard Life Bank. Brenda and James can split this by investing £3,000 into a 50-day notice account, paying gross income of 7.3 per cent. The remaining £2,000 can go into the Direct Access Saving Account, which pays out at a rate of 7.1 per cent gross. Should Brenda and James need

to raid their emergency account. I strongly recommend that they immediately set up a direct debit of whatever is affordable to replace that money over time, so the next time they face an emergency there is money available without resorting to overdrafts or credit cards.

This leaves £22,000. By investing £6,000 in a low-risk income-producing PEP such as the Commercial Union's Monthly Income PEP, the couple are earning about £30 income a month, while maintaining the

potential for tax-free capital growth. A higher-risk investment, but one offering excellent income levels, is Scottish Life's Income Bonus Bond. This pays 9 per cent a year for 5.5 years. Then, net investment is returned in full provided that the FTSE100 and the SMI (Swiss) share indexes have grown by an average of 5.87 per cent annually. The worstcase scenario is that investors receive back their net investment less the income received - a £10,000 investment would provide income worth £3,928, so the return of capital would be £5,772 (there is a 3 per cent set-up fee).

The total income of roughly £360 a month, increasing to £360 in June, plus £873 a year from the Bonus Bond, will offset any reduction due to James's ill-health and still leave the couple £210 a month better off.

I recommend that the remaining £6,000 be invested in a range of second-hand endowments, ensuring the maturity of lump sums at specific times in the future. These are low-risk products which suit the couple's attitude to risk.

James and Brenda do have life cover of £50,000 each through Teachers Assurance. This will last until 2012 when their current mortgage should end. This is valuable and should be maintained. Finally, Brenda has a Bupa policy at work which covers James as well. This could be very valuable in the future.

Market leaders may not be tops

EVEN BY the demanding standards of the past, this has been an exciting and volatile year in the stock market. The dramas of the summer may be over for now, but there is no question that this has been a year full of strange and unsustainable phenomena, the Russian and hedge fund crises being just the most dramatic examples.

It has certainly been a year when many tried and tested methods of picking stocks have failed to deliver their customary results. The divergence in performance between large cap and small cap stocks has, if anything, accelerated in the past year

So much so that Anthony Bolton of Fidelity Investments, for example, unquestionably one of Britain's most consistently successful fund managers, told me last week that he can rarely recall a time when the disparities in relative values have been so great. In his view the continued domination of the market performance charts by just a handful of blue chip companies has created some wonderful bargains in the

lower reaches of the market. Bolton's view is that the onward march of indexation, which encourages the buying of the largest stocks in the main market indices, coupled with increasingly herd-like behaviour by institutional investors, is in danger of creating a valuation bubble at the very top of the market.

Jim Slater is another professional investor who has come to exactly the same conclusion. He has admitted that the smaller growth stocks his own selection method is designed to throw up have struggled to make progress in current market conditions.

In Slater's view, it is very difficult to find any value at all among the market leaders. Buying Glaxo, for example, on a p/e ratio of more than 30, is hardly an attractive-looking prospect, whatever your method of share valuation.

Yet the increasingly lopsided performance of the Footsie index itself may now. he thinks, be throwing up some interesting investment opportunities. For safetyconscious investors, who find midcap and smaller stocks too risky, or for those with income requirements, he reckons there is a lot to be said for taking a fresh look at some of the relatively unfancied members of the Footsie index.

Using a screening method



JONATHAN DAVIS

A sure-fire way of losing money is to buy the most popular shares

inspired by the research of a well-known American contrarian investor, David Dreman, Slater has picked out eight Footsie stocks which he believes could make a sensible portfolio of blue chips for cautious investors.

The results of this exercise are set out in the table. All these companies are, by definition, large, well capitalised and securely

financed businesses. The average yield of this group, at 6 per cent, is almost twice the average of the FTSE 100 index as a whole, and looks attractive in an environment of 2-3 per cent inflation and falling interest rates. The p/e ratio of around 12 is barely more than half the Footsie average (currently 22). Since the exercise was first carried out last month, three of the shares (Bass, P&O and Royal Bank of Scotland) have made positive advances, but the others have still to make

much, if any, progress. This seems to me an interesting approach and one whose results I shall monitor over the coming months. What is not in doubt, it seems to me. is that the current surge in large cap stock valuations is unsustainable.

The one thing which every serious research study shows is that a sure-fire way to lose money on the stock market over time is to buy the most popular shares of the moment tie those with the highest ple ratios and the lowest dividend vields). The risk in chasing the market leaders higher is therefore substantial, and prudent private investors will look elsewhere for value in the Footsie in current conditions.

Jonathan Davis can be contacted by e-mail at. davisbizia aol.com

I SHOULD be careful here, in case I inadvertently insult some of you. No, what the hell, let's do it anyway.

Do you put letters after your name? You know what I mean: a visiting card full to the brim of in a forlorn attempt to impress on the person receiving it that it comes from someone of high intellect.

My own card, when I remember to fish out the last dog-eared example on my person, carries no such letters, on the assumption that the person I meet knows who I am and doesn't need to be told about my various O- and A-levels.

I can understand why someone with a degree might want to let others know they bave one. But is there really a need for anyone to have 22 letters after their name?

This, it transpires, is potentially the number which an independent financial adviser could lay claim to on his or her

card - just for passing one

simple exam. The exam itself is the Financial Planning Certificate (FPC), a mandatory qualification for anyone who wants to become an adviser. Having seen the questions, and knowing the subject matter. I reckon that the FPC ranks somewhere just below an A-level in terms of its academic rigour.

Yet by dint of paying membership fees to the right financial organisations - who make sackloads of money out of the practice - an adviser who passes this test is given the right to put their designatory letters after his or her name. In the process, she becomes: Josephine Bloggs FPC, MLIA (dip), MIFP. CFA, SI (aff). And if they succeed in passing the next round of exams, they can then place an even greater number of letters after their name.

To make matters worse, these letters are also part of a venomous internecine battle



CICUTTI

If an adviser feels so incredibly insecure about his professional status, he should go and suck a dummy

between different trade organisations representing financial advisers. When one organisation comes up with a set of initials, another one does too. Confused? You should be. The

prospective clients that an adviser has achieved a certain level of competence, has now become an exercise in egoboosting and overcoming a lack of confidence.

The danger for us is that it becomes increasingly difficult to check an adviser's academic competence. If you give me a card and it says Josephine Bloggs BA, I assume you have reached a universally recognised standard. But what am I to think if your card says you are the proud holder of a MLIA (dip)? Or a MIFP? Or both?

It is time for the City's new super-watchdog, the Financial Services Authority, to lay down the law and tell advisers: "What outfit you belong to is your business. But you will only be allowed to use one set of initials, common to everyone, depending

on which exam you pass At the end of the day, if an adviser feels so incredibly

insecure about his professional status, he should go and suck a dummy, not hand the rest of us an A4-sized business card.

FINALLY AS I jet off to the Big Apple for a week's R&R, it is time to congratulate two more of our regular writers for winning awards. Andy Couchman was commended in the Norwich Union Healthcare awards, for articles appearing in The Independent.

And Jain Morse was this week voted Friends Provident ethical investment journalist of the year, for a series on ethical finances that appeared in this section earlier in the year. Runner-up was Abigail Montrose, another regular in our pages, but this time writing in our sister paper.

The Independent on Sunday. The jury included the actress Joanna Lumley and Sir Crispin Tickell, former UK ambassador to the United Nations. So now we know: the best journalists really do appear in this section.

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3.1	Safeway	12	7	6.4	1	38	283	282
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rchase. Example based on a 36 month agreement for a two-year old BMW 7281 at £28,450 (Incl. Road Fund Licence). Initial deposit of £5,250 followed by 35 monthly payments of £429, with an £80 acceptan nonthly payment. One final payment of \$10,518.46 together with a \$25 option to purchase fee (incl. VAT). Total amount payable is \$30,888.48. Prices are correct at time of going to print and subject to change without notice. All finance is a request from BMW Financial Services (GB) Limited, Europa House, Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9UF,

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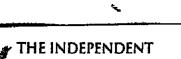
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The appliance of common sense Think twice before buying an extended warranty for your new stereo system or washing machine. By Guy Dennis Tonsumers across the certain consumers across to electrical goods. A broken washing machine or stere to electrical goods. A broken washing machine or stere of dearling or stere of dearling the normal purpose and last a reasonable period of time, and this leave you with dirty of service of the normal purpose and last a reasonable period of time, and this purpose and last a reasonable period of time, and this purpose and last a reasonable period of time, and this purpose and last a reasonable period of time, and it applies to electrical goods for six years from the point of sale. Warranties are comprehensive, including extras such as a year's insurance against their for O'Brien's claims that they are good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover against their own or cheaper than buying leave many unconvinced. Cover against their work out cheaper than buying sever are extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for money may leave many unconvinced. Cover along the first of the cost of a five year extended warranty to a good value for

doesn't just leave you with dirty ciothes or an eerie silence - it leaves you with a headache.

Repair bills, inconvenience and haggling with retailers can transform a lazy weekend into a gruelling challenge, which is why so many consumers pay for extended warranties. According to Norwich Union Direct, the extended warranty market for domestic electrical appliances is now worth £400m.

However warranties have attracted criticism from consumer organisations. Indeed, it is not even clear that extended warranties are necessary.

"Most extended warranties are a waste of money. Under the Sale of Goods Act you have the right to take things back within a six-year period anyway. so guite often they're selling mething to which you're already entitled," says Rory Hegarty, a spokesman for the

six years from the point of sale, there may still be problems when things go wrong.

Notions of a reasonable period of time, "satisfactory quality" and normal purpose are dehatable, and the Sale of Goods Act is ultimately enforced by the courts. So if your video recorder breaks after five years, it may not be a case of marching into a store and receiving a replacement.

You may find yourself contemplating a court case. with all its costs and delays. And even if it does not take legal action, exercising your rights may still take time, patience

and determination. Mr Hegarty concedes: "There is an argument with extended warranties, that you wouldn't necessarily have to pursue your rights through the courts." But he still concludes: "If you're paying as much as a

video recorder can be over half the price of the product.

For a video recorder costing £155, a five-year Mastercare Coverplan service agreement from Currys costs £104. At Comet a Five Star Supercover extended warranty costs £99.99, and at Tempo a five-year Tempo Coverplan costs £79.98. in short, extended warranty agreements sold by these highstreet retailers are expensive.

And according to research by Which?, electrical goods are becoming more reliable, and many extended warranties cost the consumer more than paying for repairs.

But retailers maintain that their warranties are excellent value. Steve O'Brien, head of corporate affairs for Dixons Group, says: "We've got very comprehensive policies. Our policies cover you for a lot more than anybody else's do."

under their home contents insurance already:

More importantly, when it comes to the warranty component, there are better deals to be had. For example, John Lewis is offering free extended warranties on certain goods, including five-year warranties for televisions and two-year warranties for video recorders. camcorders, hi-fi equipment and personal computers. Many manufacturers offer

their own extended warranty deals, which may be more attractive than those sold by high-street stores. This is one reason why the hard-sell tactics used to sell extended warrapties have attracted so much criticism. People end up taking out a retailer's own extended warranty; unaware that a manufacturer's own alternative is

Another alternative is a multi-appliance policy with an

EXTENDED

Warranties

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Shop warranties

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John Lewis offers free

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A mixed bag, but some

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But, as with all insurance policies, you should check what is covered - camcorders are often excluded, for example.

But the most essential advice is to shop around and consider your needs carefully before buying an extended warranty. And if you do take out an extended warranty and have to make a claim, be aware that the insurance ombudsman may be able to help you if there is a dispute - many extended warranties are actually a form of

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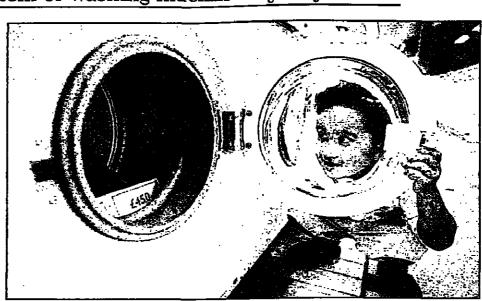
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insurance against breakdown. Dirty money: a washing machine warranty may not be good value Andrew Buurman

The Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP

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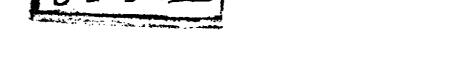
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IT SEEMS there is no end to the urge to merge. The latest couple are the drugs companies, Zeneca and Astra. They join a long and distinguished list of recent marriages that covers banking. insurance, utilities and the oil industry:

It seems that, while big may be beautiful, it is not adequate these days. Huge is where it is at.

All this, of course, is good for the stockmarket. Spotting the next takeover target has always been a favoured occupation for stockbrokers.

But any prudent manager will tell you that you should never buy a share on take-over talk alone. Remember that take-over bids do not necessarily guarantee the investor will profit. Still, it is not doing the stockmarket any harm, and with talk of a recession next year, every little piece of speculative activity helps.

Most, but not all, mergers are to do with greater efficiency and cost cutting. Witness the way in which the Deutsche Bank bid for Bankers Trust resulted in an immediate statement concerning job losses. And the bid has not even gone through yet.

What is surprising is that, despite the manufacturing slowdown and a steady drizzle of P45s in financial services. the labour market is holding up. Indeed some service industries are reporting a skills shortage. No wonder wage rises continue to outstrip inflation.

This is one reason why Professor Tim Congdon, of Lombard Street Research, does not believe there will be a recession in the UK next year. It has to be said that there is a divergence of opinion. Last week Tim and fellow director Brian Reading slugged it out in front of an audience of City professionals in the charming setting of Skinners Hall.

Brian's concern is that the problems in the Far East are too deep-seated

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There are good reasons to believe that there will be no recession in the UK

to be shrugged off and that deflation will engulf the developed world. Certainly some statistics make alarming reading - domestic demand in Korea is expected to shrink by 25 per cent this year. But Tim believes the US economy will continue to power ahead, even if 1998 has been a strange year. Normally the economic health of America, which accounts for around one third of the world's economy, is crucial to the wellbeing of the rest of us. Yet the continued

strength of the US

economy has not helped

the beleaguered nations

of the Pacific rim, while

other emerging countries are having a lough time. However, the good professor discounts the prophecies of recession in the UK on the basis that we don't need one and the Chancellor has all the freedom he needs to prevent one. Inflation does not look likely to give the Monetary Policy Committee much cause for concern, while, unlike some parts of the world, we rejoice in a strong and

commerce turning. What with that and the steady flow of takeovers and mergers, the outlook does not look half bad. I cannot help but feel that I've missed something.

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Brian Tora is chairman of the Greig Middleton investment strategy committee

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by Nic Cicutti



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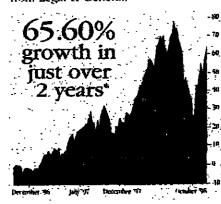
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Designer Megan Park is at the forefront of the new vogue for Bohemian chic. Sumptuous fabrics, embroidery and beads - her clothes say 'no' to Nineties austerity. By Dominic Lutyens

Out with minimalism





Park extravagantly scatters her designs with enough beads to sink a battleship; metallic georgette tunic, £275 (left); and Oriental patchwork wrap, £195

Park is an exemplary Nineties designer. Her own gamine crop and she lives and works in a sparse East London loft, its severity softened only by clusters of moss-green candles and paintings bought, one suspects, from a nearby Shoreditch gallery. All very hip - until you spot the idiosyncratic wares she designs: opulent silk neckscarves, wraps, dinky evening bags and tunic dresses in vivid colour combinations, intricately hand-embroidered with cut-glass beads. Park's message is loud and clear: minimalism can go hang.

It isn't a heresy to decry minimalism these days, thanks to the current vogue for "Bohemian chic" (as in Indian and chinoiserie fabrics fashioned into everything from frocks to decadent bolsters). But, in the boho-chic stakes, Park has truly pushed the boat out scattering her designs with enough beads to sink a battleship, and revelling in the pairing of muted colours with cheeky acid splashes - claret collides with fuchsia, midnight blue with tangerine, and olive green with lime chartreuse. "I like to work with muddy, dirty colours and inject them with hot, bright colours," she quips.

Park, an Australian fashion graduate from Melbourne, has been doing baroque

the face of it, Megan for 10 years. In the early Nineties - during those wilderness years of relentless-

tuous fabrics for an Australian fashion company. After moving to Britain six years ago, she was offered a job as designer for the Delhi-based company Sreepriya, a specialist in hand-embroidered fabrics. Since then, "we've built up a great relationship," says Park, "and my designs are now sold regularly to Dries van Noten, Givenchy and Kenzo."

Park still works for Sreepriya, but last year she launched her own label and now produces two collections a year, available in shops all over the world. Known for her delicate bags and scarves, Park has recently started designing lavishly em-broidered simply cut clothing. The tunic dresses, aprons, sarongs and camisoles are made from fantastic silks - taffeta, organza, satin and georgette - or nylon net, and occasionally combined with velvet and wool. Metallic block prints are a common feature, on to which beads are embroidered, often incorporating metallic yarns. A beguiling combination of Eastern and Victorian, the designs are reminiscent of 19th-century Orientalism, and its associations with the dandyish figureheads of the Aesthetic Movement, such as Whistler, Oscar Wilde and Aubrey Beardsley.

"After six years with Sreepriya, I'd built up the experience to start my own label." ly "tasteful" and Prada-inspired says Park. "It seemed natural to do minimalism - Park regularly travelled to scarves and bags because they're small stage to make something that looked this precious, without having to deal with a huge expanse of fabric.

Park's own-label designs are made by another Delhi-based company and Park spends three months of the year in India.

Park's designs are like 19th-century orientalism, a beguiling mix of Eastern and Victorian

The skilled workmanship of its embroiderers, and the good wages they are paid, were attractions to that particular company. "I found the company three years ' she says. "It does embroidery for Doice & Gabbana and Anna Molinari and the embroiderers are all men. Their workmanship is amazing."

Taking a very hands-on approach, Park prides berself on enjoying a symbiotic relationship with the embroiderers.

"We work closely together. I work on one her collections at London Fashion Week mind about it and ask for an element to always show me little samples that inspire me. The most exhilarating part of my job is seeing something develop from a boring drawing to the finished product."

Spare though her loft is, it is dotted about with evidence of Park's inspirations: photocopies of Victorian samplers. broderie anglaise and Art Nouveau flowers; a page from a Seventies fashion magazine showing models in dresses with hippy-influenced embroidery; an abstract painting in an Art Deco style in rusts and browns; postcards of Aubrey Beardsley illustrations from the current exhibition at the V&A - a favourite place for research.

Only one year after their launch. Park's own-label accessories and clothing are selling world-wide: at Harvey Nichols, Liberty, Joseph, Browns, Whistles and The Cross in London; at Colette and Le Bon Marché in Paris; at Barneys and Nieman Marcus in America; and Joyce in Hong Kong. And the orders are rolling in, in ever higher quantities. Does she worry about completing them on time? "No, if a shop orders anything, it has to give me three months lead time."

Park initially approached these companies directly, but now buyers flock to see contact Megan Park on 0171-739 5828

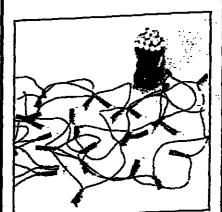
design with a couple of guys for a week, and in Paris, where she shows her work slowly developing it. I might change my in a friend's apartment. The fashion press's enthusiastic response work has I saw were at Vogue, and they loved my stuff," she says. "They did a profile on me. As soon as I could say that that had happened, all the stores I'd been hoping would stock my stuff were keen to do so."

Naturally, the prices of her designs reflect their detailed labour-intensive craftsmanship. Her Resham Lily two-tone wrap sells for 2232; her Lyon Floral georgette tunic, £275; while her jewel-striped evening bag - in either claret or powder blue with fine bands of differently coloured beads - costs £63.

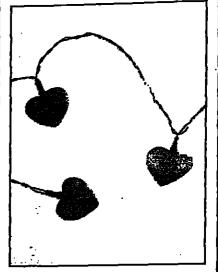
In fashion terms, grey might be the order of the day this winter. But the popularity of Park's designs suggests that the trend for bohemian chic isn't a flash in the pan. Oh, and fashion next summer, as those who pore over reports of the collections will know, is set to be rampantly colourful. So, if Park's hope is that monochrome minimalism can go hang, she won't have long to wait. Who knows, as I write, she may even be giving her fashionably austere East London loft a

For more information and stockists,

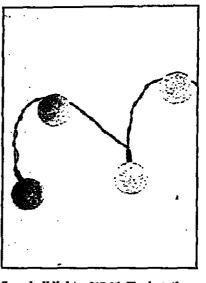
SIX OF THE BEST FAIRY LIGHTS



Pearly lights, £6.95, Habitat (for nearest store call 0645 334433)



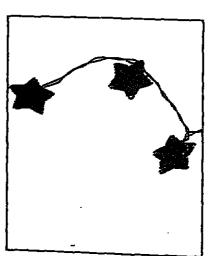
Love Heart Lights, £14.95, Liberty (other stockists: 0181-964 1956)



Snowball lights, £17.95, Heals (other stockists: 0181 964 1956)



Chilli Peppers. £28.95. Liberty, American Retro and After Noah (other stockists: 0181 748 6918)



Blue Stars, £17.95 for 10 (for stockists call 0181 964 1956)



Duck Lights, £14.99 plus p&p, Urchin Mail Order (0800 328 1029)

CHECK IT OUT

CONTEMPORARY GALLERIES IN HISTORIC CENTRES



WHEN THE invitation to visit a new gallery comes coloured red and curled up inside a tiny jam jar, it is no surprise that attention to detail is a defining characteristic of the new venue - especially when the name of the Eton gallery turns out to be - you guessed it - JaM. Anyone expecting sweet and gloopy exhibits will be in for a disappointment, though, because the "JaM" in question stands for "Jewellery and Metal".

JaM is part of an established ceramics and glass gallery. Eton Applied Arts, and the idea behind this new division is to promote British makers to the general public. Its owners, Jacqueline Norris and Mike Turner, have chosen to concentrate on contemporary designers and will display new jewellery and metalwork from more than 30 of them, with the focus on one designer each month.

The gallery opened on Eton High Street last month. Current designers include Claire Robinson, whose gold and silver "Robinson Crusoe" necklaces (£775) are assembled from agate, opals and lapis, picked up during travels around the world, and Kate Wilkinson who uses recycled materials to create funky and fashionable chokers (£180). Other pieces in the gallery start at around £10.

Not far from Eton, another new gallery has just opened its doors – by appointment – in Oxford. Art 19 is the creation of painter Roma Tearne, who was fed up with the "antiseptic" gallery displays of art that intimidated visitors. Instead, Tearne decided to

produce "a complete interior space" to show paintings, furniture, sculpture and fabrics in

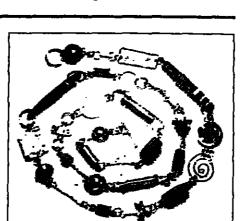
a more welcoming light.

The gallery's first show, held in the bevelled interior of Tearne's Victorian house, is called Prospero's Cell. Pieces include Tearne's Venetian-inspired paintings, textiles from Luscious Interiors, delicate clusters of pale pink roses and pansies from the Flower Design Studio and glassware by Galia Amsel.

Runner-up for this year's Jerwood Prize. Arnsel has designed one piece (Vaporetto) spe-cially for the show. Its gold particles glow inside the white semi-transparent surface of the glass and fit in well with the other work she is showing - some of which was recently sent to the Venice Biennale.

Art 19's prices range from £50 to £1,800 and percentage of the proceeds will be given to the Central American Hurricane Appeal. Subsequent shows should be equally flamboyant - the next one aims to illustrate contemporary fashion alongside visual arts. And, after the success of shops within semis and hairdressers in houses, this way of exhibiting is sure to catch on. In fact, I wonder if my housemates would mind a little sale chez nous? Steve's records would surely appeal to the conscientious antiques collector.

JaM: 586 High Street, Eton (01753 860771). Open Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-1pm; Art 19: 19 Walton Crescent, Oxford, OX1 2JG (01865 514172). Open by appointment only





Clockwise from left; Venetian-inspired paintings by Roma Tearne; Claire Robinson's 'Robinson Crusoe necklace'; and choker by Kate Wilkinson

Joel Degan and Hannah McPherson

pament to make yourself one,

The Paul By our he reading this into New Gumen Organic also Bodown very nicely in my bo Pure Jamaica Blue Mour Moz Siv per la odists: Viet traier from Alge (age Stores | 0171 437 24804 beoiption: This is the come ans cones nean, and Germ

ad lapan smaller up the lion's si an hence its astronomical p where It is also we waity im the to set hold of the gr masted bear, so if you are de med to roas: your own - co thing taken to its most perso sedlerel - then you will be so suppointed. Incidentally, or hans can be roasted in the ove An want to look like you re kow what you are doing, in size steel roasters on a hob to fou the Monmouth Coffee (The process takes rough dallowing you to rosst the be our our particular liking v and money too a se bag of m ei Colombian Medeilin Supr

> STOCKIN FILLER SUNBLOCK STIC

Osts (4.6) in its raw form). Sple rating:

DON'T FORGET to take so Photection on your skiing t The latest in sun safety is Sunblock stick from Globa Osmetics (23.50). It has I and UV.B organic sunscre damins C and E to prote sainst iree radicals, Allar help wound healing and Hempseed oil to moisturis sin. Stockists: 01892 7500

THE INDEPENDENT

Saturday 12 December 1998

How to spill the beans

first thing that you mas. I know it wasn't top of my list to Santa at the age of 13, when my Uncle Paul sent me threequarter-pound bags of beans, pany (0171-379 4337) is currently inscribed with the words Kenya. Columbia and Brazil respectively.

With hindsight, I can see how valuable this exercise in discriminating geographical flavour fluctuasince I had neither the equipment to grind the beans nor an interest in the drink - the only Brazilian exports I was interested in at the time were the nuts (preferably encased in butterscotch) and the footballing legacy (Pele et al) - the educational opportunity was lost on me.

Thus the closest that I came to any sort of caffeine revelation during my adolescence was the diswas a meteoric improvement on insbury's own-brand coffee powder (an evil compound) and my drinker of Italian café cappuccino to Seattle Coffee Shop addict was delayed by quite a few years.

cappuccino, hazelnut latte, Nescafe touring car fans, didn't you know?)... the choices are myriad. Yet the Style rating: *** closest most of us get to a Christmas Any others worth considering? If, present caffeine fix are those hor- like Bob Dylan, you prefer to go elecwhich is rather a shame. After all, grinders. Moulinex (£15.75) and mpared to the other muck that you're obliged to imbibe during kitchen standards, while Russell Christmas - from mulled Estonian table wine to vile liqueurs - who in their right mind wouldn't crave a be warned, manual grinding takes decent cup of coffee? So, here is the a lot less time than finding the thing equipment to make yourself one, and Uncle Paul, if you're reading this, the Papua New Guinea Organic always goes down very nicely in my house.

RAM! POWER
Pure Jamaica Blue Mountain Price: £30 per lb

Stockists: Mail order from Algerian Coffee Stores (0171-437 2480) Description: This is the connoisand Japan snaffle up the lion's share of it, hence its astronomical price over here. It is also virtually impossible to get hold of the green unroasted bean, so if you are determined to roast your own - coffee drinking taken to its most personalised level - then you will be sorely disappointed. Incidentally, coffee beans can be roasted in the oven or, you want to look like you really know what you are doing, in stainless steel roasters on a hob (£25.50 from the Monmouth Coffee Company). The process takes roughly 25 minutes, and has the added benefit of allowing you to roast the bean to your own particular liking while saving money too (a £6 bag of roasted Colombian Medellin Supremo

offee may not be the Any others worth considering? Loads, and experimentation is one of the best things about coffee drinking. Despite bemoaning the fact that American roasters have muscled in on its favourite estates in Nairobi, the Monmouth Coffee Comenjoying the harvests of a richbodied bean from Mount Kenya's Ithekahuno Estate (£7.50 per lb plus postage & packing). If you can't be bothered to hunt around or grind tion should have been. However, your own, Lavazza's Crema e Gusto (£1.99 for 250g) is a good super-market stocking filler.

> THE HARD GRIND Name: Salter wall- or table-mounted coffee grinder

Price: £35 Stockists: Monmouth Coffee Company (0171-379 4337)

Description: An old-fashioned, castiron grinder with a wooden handle covery that Nescafé Gold Blend and a tricky adjusting screw to select the fineness of your ground coffee. Once screwed into the wall, this is an extremely therapeutic development from occasional ritual and infinitely more fun than pouring it, ready ground, out of a packet. There are also a number of hand-held versions available - such Now, of course, coffee isn't just a as the matt black and chrome drink, it's a lifestyle option: skinny wooden coffee grinder by La Cafetière (£19.95. Liberty) - but Blend 37 (the favourite of British although they look good, they are a bind to operate.

> grinders, Moulinex (£15.75) and raun (£18.99) do reasonably price Hobbs does a stylish chrome-plated 150g, 12-cup number for £18.75. But, and plugging it in.

DRIP-DOWN ECONOMY Name: Ceramic coffee dripper Price: £3.50

Stockists: Muji (0171-323 2208) Description: Certain coffee drinkers believe that cappuccino and espresso makers are the bane of the finest arabica coffees: the extreme heat and pressures involved accentuate seur's coffee bean, and Germany the acidity, making the coffee sharp THE STOVE PERCOLATOR and thin at best and bitter at very worst. For these people, there can be no simpler method than placing this conical ceramic filter-paper holder on top of a mug, adding an unbleached filter paper, then simply pouring the near-boiling water over the top.

Style rating: **** Any others worth considering? If you prefer the plunging method, you can buy Bodum coffee-makers just about anywhere. More stylish is the solid, stainless-steel version by Café Stal (£35, from Selfridges). If you feel the urge to splash out on designer ware, then Nick Munro's elegantly hand-crafted pewter sets (with wicker-covered handles) are available at Liberty, Harvey Nichols and Harrods. The 1-litre-capacity pot

Name: La Conica espresso maker Price: £112 (for the six-cup size) Stockists: Alessi (01920 444272)

Description: Those hexagonalshaped stove boilers may look authentic, but over time their aluminium construction will have a marked influence on the taste of your coffee. If you want to cook coffee on gas, do it in a stainless-steel pot. If drinking coffee is a religious experience for you, Aldo Rossi's La Conica design is the Sistine Chapel of coffee percolators. Its shaft of stainless steel is erected on brass foundations and finished with a conical spire. Perfect. Style rating: *****

Any others worth considering? Heretics might settle for Matise's sophisticated four-cup stainlesssteel percolator. It costs £21 from branches of John Lewis.

THE ELECTRONIC CAPPUCCINO/ ESPRESSO MAKER

Name: La Pavoni Europiccola Price: £360 (for the eight-cup machine)

Stockists: 0171-722 7648 Description: Unlike its adversaries. this is a lever-controlled, steampressure-operated machine: hence its modest 1.5-bar output and the distinctive edge to the flavour of the coffee it delivers. This may be an acquired taste, but acquire it you must because this chrome-plated beast is pure old-school chic, right down to the vertical glass tube that runs down its side. And if you want to turn your home into an Italian cafe, you can also buy a chrome base (£115) for it to sit on. Classico. Style rating: *****

Any others worth considering? If Any others worth considering? If it runs on specially prepared tubs of even when full. If only it could accelyou prefer something more playful, ground coffee (£2.50 for 10). If this erate from 0-60mph in 6.3 seconds. Bodum 01451 810460

Francis Francis does a range of sounds dull, then Alessi has dressed curvy, retro-styled machines (£299 from Selfridges and Liberty) designed by Luca Trazzi, in brilliant burnt orange, mustard yellow and pale

blue enamel with a chirpy temperature gauge featuring a picture of a beaming kid-cooler than it sounds. Sadly, these are only nine-bar machscience of espresso-making won't touch anything unless it delivers 19-Nespresso 554 Black 1.8-litre machhunt down. It includes a computer chip, which you can programme with your personal preference in strength to get your coffee-making down to a fine art - particularly since

the same technology up to resemble a cross between an office mineral-water dispenser and a multi-storey car park (£365). Siemens goes a step further, by enlisting FA Porsche to create its flash filtercoffee machine, predictably named the Siemens Porsche TC 9110 (£129). ines and those absorbed by the Surprisingly, the designer did not choose the ubiquitous bright red colour that sports-car fans tend to bar pump power. For them. the favour, but a cool, brushed stainless solemn black-and-chrome Krups steel. It's in its engineering that this machine brings its namesake to ine (£350, Selfridges) is the one to mind - the 1,000-watt, awardwinning (Industrie Forum Design Hanover) coffee pot boasts an automatic adjusting water flow for 2-4 or 5-8 cups and a vacuum flask container that remains cool to the touch even when full. If only it could accel-

STOCKING FILLERS

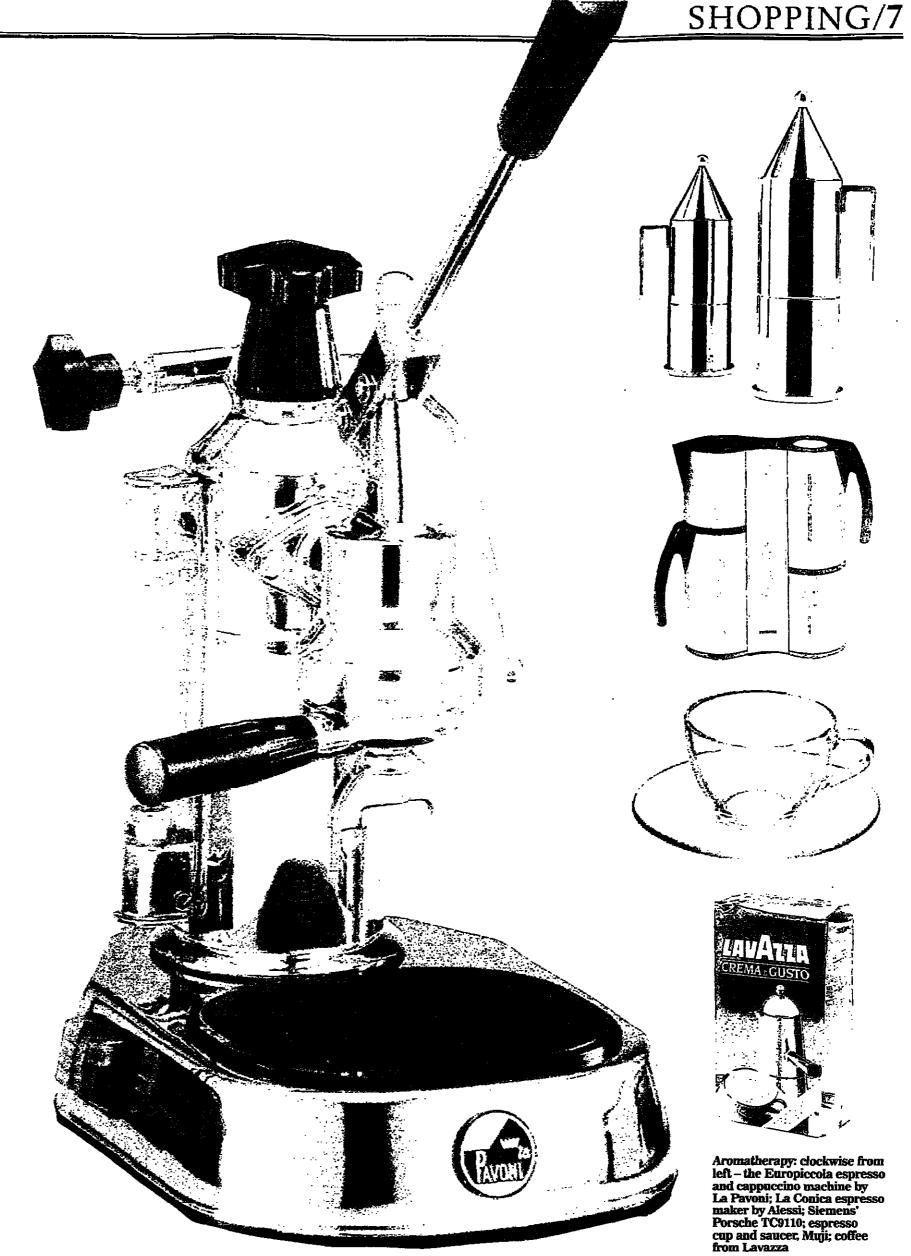
1 Heat-resistant clear glass espresso cups and saucers, £2.50, Muji 2 Stainless steel cup and saucer, £11. John Lewis

3 Weiss Palets de Chocolat noir, £5.80 for 250g, Monmouth Coffee Company 4 Chocolate shaker, £3.85, Bodum 5 Six-cup cappuccino plunger for frothy milk, £29.95, John Lewis SHAUN PHILLIPS.

Other stockists: Monmouth Coffee Company 0171-379 4337: Larazza 0181-580 8810: Moulinex 0121-380 0500; Braun 0990 143223; Russell Hobbs 0161-947 3000; Selfridges 0171-629 1234; Liberty 0171-734 1234; Harrods 0171-730 1234; Siemens 0990 222777; Harvey Nichols 0171-335

5000; John Lewis 0171-629 7711;

DEPUTY EDITOR, 2M



STOCKING

costs £4.62 in its raw form). Style rating: *****

FILLER SUNBLOCK STICK



DON'T FORGET to take some protection on your skiing trip. The latest in sun safety is a sumblock stick from Global Cosmetics (£8.50). It has UV-A and UV-B organic sunscreens, itamins C and E to protect against free radicals, Allantoin to help wound healing and Hempseed oil to moisturise the skin. Stockists: 01892 750075.

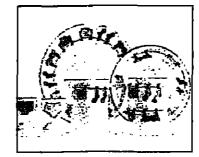
OUT WITH THE OLD

WHETHER IT'S saucy undies or a sensible pair of granny knickers, underwear is definitely an old favourite when it comes to finding a solution to Christmas gift dilemmas. If you want to please, though, get fruity with Berlei's (stockists 01525 859759) new range of berry-coloured lingerie. Prices range from £12.50 for "deep briefs" to £24 for a lace underwired bra...



IN WITH THE NEW

... or you could splash out on a whole range of underwear with the laundry breakfast set from The General Trading Company (0171-730 0411). The hand-painted bone china by Northington costs from £5.95 for an egg cup to £18 for a milk jug, and the good thing about this underwear is that it's never going to go grey in the wash



IF I WIN THE LOTTERY TONIGHT...

IAN MCCASKILL PANTOMIME VILLAIN FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE WEATHERMAN

IT'S DIFFICULT to say what I'd do if I won the lottery because I don't do it. I'm too mean and I understand about probabilities and I don't want to win £10 - £10 is more trouble than it's worth.

If I did win the lottery Γd give a quite a bit of it to charity. I'm a pensioner and have very simple tastes, so I don't need the money all that badly. I can't think of anything I need. I really wouldn't want a shiny car as it would just get vandalised. Maybe it's a result of getting older, but possessions are just an encumbrance.

My favourite charity is the breast cancer charity Breakthrough. It's a new charity doing marvellous things. Until a few years ago, breast cancer was something



that people didn't even talk about. It wasn't mentioned. One of Breakthrough's achievements is raising the awareness of breast cancer. I'm very interested in women; I do greatly prefer the company of women to men. I've lost good friends to breast cancer - my first wife, my mother, my mother-inlaw, and all sorts of relatives.

When you have two

daughters, it becomes of pressing importance to you. You worry about them too. Until Breakthrough came along there wasn't a charity that was specifically targeted at breast cancer. I doubt I'd spend any

money on my family – ungrateful lot! - they don't need the money. Not that they are rich; I don't think that it does much good receiving money early in your life. My daughters are quite young, 25 and 23, and a little money would be handy at this stage, but I don't think it would be helpful to get a lot of money. I think there has to be a bit of work somewhere along the way. This is the old Scottish Calvinist coming out in me. I suppose the wife could get a new frock.

We could do a little more travelling but we don't have time to travel at the moment - I'm busy rehearsing for the pantomime and my wife's studying English and drama at university, up in Yorkshire. I'm hoping she doesn't want to do a PhD as it would be nice to take the odd break in the Caribbean; St Lucia, Trinidad or Tobago maybe. I'm not a beach person, but I like to know it's there. I'd also like to know the Far East better and there are parts of Australia I have not yet seen.

Ian McCaskill is performing in 'Puss in Boots' at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, to 16 January (01753 853888) INTERVIEW BY DIONA GREGORY

The S80's makers have dubbed it 'the exciting safe choice'. John Simister can only agree with the 'safe' bit

Not an estate, but still a Volvo

truly sabotaged, then. We can't make fun of Volvo drivers if the stereotypical raw material - estate cars, square shapes, high-class secondhand furniture, etc - has been denied to us. But there it is: Volvo's S80, the Swedish company's newest and grandest creation, is available only as a saloon. A rather handsome saloon, too.

At Volvo, rounded is the new angular. We have the British designer, Peter Horbury, to thank for this, a man given the daunting task of making Volvos stylish while remaining visually Volvoid. He began the process with the \$40 and V40, continued it with the C70 coupé, and brings the theme to its climax with this S80. What theme? Horbury talks a lot about the "Volvo shoulder", in which the bonnet and boot sit proud of the body sides, whose inward-curving upper edges form the shoulder. It's a device based on one used in Volvos of the 1950s and early 1960s, and it finds maximum new-age expression in the \$80's remarkable. scallop-edged tail-lights.

Inside, this grandest of Volvos it replaces the S90/V90 series, the final flounderings of the old reardrive "tank" Volvos - is similarly curvy-chunky. There's much wood (not real) and leather (real), provided you specify an uprange version, and an aura of inviting quality not familiar from past big Volvos, which tended to the functional side of comfortable. Neat details abound, as do airbags (it even has these in the roof).

Some samples: the centre pillars contain air vents for the rear passengers; there are cup-holders in the front door pockets, the rear centre armrest and by the gearlever, a broad, retractable "band" in the boot can wrap around luggage to hold it in place; there's a soft light behind the hubs of the instruments' needles, giving an effect like an eclipse of the sun; you select the destination for the air-conditioning's output by pressing the desired body segment of a three-piece diagram of a sitting human; and, best of all, pressing a button on the steering wheel causes an (optional) satellite-navigation screen to rise up out of the dashboard's top, like a submarine breaking the surface

Marketing people refer to such details as "surprise-and-delight" so quiet, and the response to the



The new Volvo S80 - on the surface it looks great, but in practice it is not exactly a driver's car

hefty six-cylinder engine in a choice of two strengths: 2.9 litres and 204 bhp, or 2.8 litres, two turbochargengines (two petrol, one turbo-diesel) will follow soon. All are mounted across the front of the car and feed their power to the front wheels. Not since the British Leyland 2200s in their various forms has there been another car with both a transverse engine and six cylinders, a fact that students of motoring trivia will relish.

The 2.9-litre S80, the one I have been driving for the last few days, is uncannily quiet at idle. In fact it's

engine into life, and dismiss the first one-third of the pedal's movement as wholly non-contributory to the ers and 272bhp. Five-cylinder job in hand. Once into the action zone, however, the engine proves smooth, tuneful and energetic. It needs an automatic transmission, I feel, to spare the driver ignominy and render it stall-proof. One is available, of course.

Pressing that accelerator calls for twice the effort normally needed for the brake pedal. Sneeze, and the Volvo will stand on its nose, or that's how it seems. This mis-matching of efforts is disconcerting, and does dreadful things to your driving flow. So does the anaesthetised

features. There should be some "s&d" in the way the Volvo feels to drive, too, because it comes with a scelerator is so soggy, that it's very steering, which makes the S80 strangely hard to place on the pedal with real conviction to stir the road. This Volvo doesn't lack roadholding; it corners crisply and changes direction smartly. It just doesn't tell you what is going on, unless a sharp bump shatters the relative serenity of normal progress. So you see that the \$80 is a car

> of conflicts. It has the looks, the quality of finish, the mechanical credentials, but it's a frustratingly interaction-free drive, a virtualreality Volvo with the sensor pads deactivated. Volvo describes the S80, snappily, as "the exciting safe choice". However, this particular exciting is the new dull. You pay more for rival upmarket transport. But if you enjoy driving, you'll be

SPECIFICATIONS

VOLVO S80 2.9 SE Price: £30,780. Engine: 2,922cc, six cylinders. 24 valves, 204bhp at 6,000rpm. Transmission: five-speed gearbox, front-wheel drive. Performance: 146mph, 0-60 in 8.0sec, 24-29mpg.

RIVALS

Audi A8 2.8: £36,595. Lightweight, high-tech, all aluminium construction and slippery looks. A new, gently revised version has just been revealed.

most distinctive of shapes, but a beautifully engineered vehicle. Discreet, like a good butler.

BMW 728i: £37,545. Not the

Jaguar XJ8 3.2: £36,405. Britain's contribution to this class of car has the strongest personality, the least room and the best

Mercedes-Benz E320: £39,030. This does everything with a sense of authority and without flamboyance. But, though easy to admire, it is hard to love.

Triumph on top of the world

The new Sprint ST is in a class of its own. By Roland Brown



TRIUMPH'S NEW Sprint ST sportstourer represents another big step forward for the revitalised British bike firm.

Two years ago, the stylish and powerful T595 Daytona sportster confirmed Triumph's ability to compete with the world's best superbikes, although it did not quite have the sheer performance of cutting-edge machines such as Honda's CBR900RR FireBlade.

Now Triumph has taken on Honda head-to-head. When the Leicestershire firm's engineers began developing a new sports-tourer almost three years ago, their target was the Japanese giant's class leader - the VFR750F.

That bike has since been superseded by the VFR800FI and joined in the market by Ducati's ST2 and ST4. On the evidence of the Sprint ST's launch in Spain, the new British challenger is a match for them all.

The Sprint has much in common with the Daytona, notably its 955cc liquidcooled three-cylinder engine. Revised camshafts and a new exhaust system combine with a redesigned fuel-injection system to give increased low- and midrange performance while reducing peak power output from 128 to 110bhp.

This bike is the first Triumph to use a twin-beam aluminium frame, long favoured by the Japanese and chosen here because it is cheaper to produce and more rigid than the Daytona's tubular aluminium structure.

Styling is less aggressive than the Daytona's, but the Sprint still manages to look sporty, with a sleek twin-headlamp fairing and single-colour bodywork in red or black. Its riding position is designed for comfort as well as speed, with slightly raised handlebars, a broad seat and plenty of legroom.

Built for comfort it may be, but the Triumph provides plenty of excitement. Its 12-valve motor is magnificent. When you wind open the throttle from as low as 50mph in top gear the Sprint responds with more enthusiasm than its rivals, and keeps accelerating with thrilling force to top speed of over 150mph. Improvements to the French-made Sagem fuelinjection system - including cutting fuel delivery completely when the throttle is closed - have made the motor considerably more economical, too, giving a range of 200 miles under normal use.

When ridden hard the Sprint care. quite match the handling precision of more firmly suspended sports bikes. But at 207kg the Triumph is light for a sports-tourer, and its Japanese-made Showa suspension is excellent. On the winding roads north-west of Seville in southern Spain the bike was great fun. combining easy steering, stability, powerful brakes and sticky radial tyres.

On longer trips I'd prefer more wind protection. But, to my minor complaint concerning the finish of mirror mounts and fairing edges. Triumph had the perfect answer, both were already being put right in time for production.

That single-minded approach has resulted in a superb all-rounder competitively priced at £7.999 - slightly more than Honda's VFR800FI but cheaper than Ducati's ST4. It's an indication of Triumph's progress that, if forced to pick a winner, this former VFR owner would have to choose the Sprint ST.

It's time to put the colour back into Formula One

BEFORE RACING cars looked like packets of cigarettes on wheels, they used to wear national colours.

Readers under 35 may find this surprising, but Italian racing red. British racing green and French racing blue were once as synonymous with their nations' sporting fortunes as Three Lions on an England footballer's shirt.

Nowadays, even Ferrari has sold its soul: the red of its cars is more Marlboro red than the rich, pillar-box, Italian racing red of yore. Things, as they say, can only get better. And, for once, they almost certainly will.

Proper national colours, on Grand Prix racing cars, are to return in a few years. Fagpacket styling, along with

cigarette-company funding, will end up in the ashtray. Before I explain why, it is

worth dwelling on the past importance of national racing colours. In the Twenties, in a Targa Florio race in Sicily, Mercedes-Benz was warned that if it raced in its traditional German white, the peasants lining the route would stone its cars, allowing the red Alfas and Fiats through to victory. Mercedes chose to disguise

its cars and painted them in Italian racing red. This was a dirty tactic, akin to painting a Messerschmitt in RAF colours in 1940 and hoping the English wouldn't notice. Yet it worked. The peasants, convinced it must be an Italian car, cheered the Mercedes on its way.

MOTORING



GAVIN GREEN

Why proper national colours on Grand Prix racing cars will be back in a few years

National colours sometimes came about in strange ways. Germany's national racing colour is now reckoned to be silver, yet, as we have seen, it was once white. The change happened in 1934, when Mercedes-Benz re-entered Grand Prix racing, partly funded by the Nazis, to prove German racial – and racing – superiority. For its first race, run to a

new formula that limited the weight of competing cars to 750kg, Mercedes' team manager, Alfred Neubauer, was shocked to discover that his cars were 1kg over the limit. His solution was to strip off the white paint, exposing the cars' aluminium skins. Hence the Silver Arrows, which dominated Thirties Grand Prix racing.

But back to the Formula One ashtray. As cigarette funding is wound up, so car companies will fill the void as backers. Mercedes-Benz, Honda. Peugeot, Ferrari (Fiat, in other words) and Ford are already big supporters of the sport. Their involvement will increase, just as BMW, Renault and Toyota either re-enter F1 racing or

come in for the first time. Ferraris will return to proper Italian racing red, McLaren-Mercedes are already silver (never mind that McLaren cars and Mercedes racing engines are built and designed here). and Prost-Peugeots are already blue, even if a shade too dark. Most exciting of all for

British fans, Jaguar is poised to

funding. Its cars will be British racing green, a colour that dominated GP grids back in the Sixties, but is now never seen. Ford currently bankrolls the

enter Formula One, with Ford

Stewart-Ford team, run by exworld champion Jackie Stewart. Yet Ford bigwigs think Stewart is getting more publicity than they are. The solution is for Ford to buy its own team and then relaunch it as Jaguar, either in 2001 or 2002.

By then, we should see red Ferraris battle silver Mercedes, green Jaguars, white Hondas and blue Peugeots. Grand Prix racing should once again stir the same national passions as it did in the Sixties, when drivers won races for Britain rather than for Benson & Hedges.

My Worst Bike

Torment on two wheels

Saxo Oper

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Registration Numbers

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The standard bike was bad enough, but some bright spark had decided to make things even worse and fit a diesel engine. It was far and away the slowest motorbike on sale, as well as being thoroughly nasty and smelly.

NEVER MIND about worst

bikes I've owned - there have

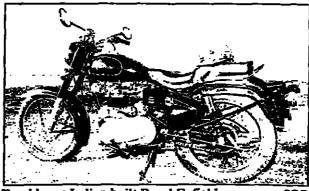
been plenty of those. But by far

the worst bike I've ever ridden

was an Indian-built Enfield.

I decided to match it against the slowest car on sale, also Indian-built, a Mahindra Jeep. Trouble was, the bloke driving the car took it seriously and started tuning it. That annoyed me, so I was determined to win

the race - and duly did to everyone's surprise. Worst car I've driven was undoubtedly a Peel Built on the Isle of Man in the Fifties, it had a 50cc motorcycle engine and ran out of puff at the hint of an incline. The bizarre thing is that



these truly terrible microcars are very collectable and can cost up to £10,000.

In fact the bloke who owned it turned up in what I consider to be the best car in the world a Porsche 911 Carrera 4. I thought it was really funny that one man should own the two extremes of motoring, from the

Trouble: an Indian-built Royal Enfield

really desperate to the ultimate driving machine. In the late Seventies, when

Quadrophenia and the whole mod revival thing happened, a couple of Vespa scooters came into my life. The fashion at one point was to take as much off "skelly". A mate of mine did it. but chose a Vespa rather than a Lambretta, which has a onepiece frame. The Vespa didn't and the

more you took off the flimsier it became. It wobbled all over the place and was impossible to ride for more than a few yards. I fell off 20 times. My own Vespa was customised with tiny eightinch wheels which were fashionable for a time.

Then, after a few weeks riding around like a 16-year-old hooligan, I got a puncture. So I asked my dad to help me fix it and he looked closely at the tyre wall and said "read that". I did and what I saw chilled me to the bone: "John Bull do not exceed 15 mph". They were wheelbarrow tyres!

Steve Berry's new book, Berry on Bikes. The Hot 100', in published by Carlton Books at £16.99. He was talking to James Ruppert

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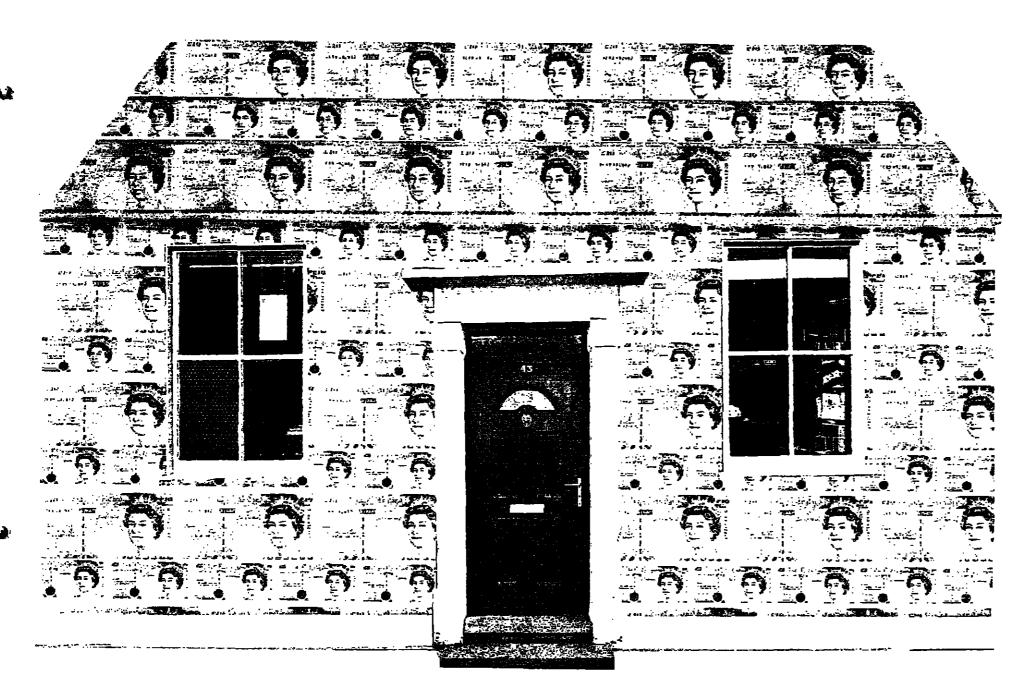
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PROPERTY



Beware the cash buyers

People with wads of notes to throw at properties are coming under increasing suspicion. By Penny Jackson

BUYERS HAVE become used to a barrage of questions from estate agents and solicitors - even if they cannot see why the purchase of a home should require so many checks. Does it matter whether the money is coming from the sale of a holiday home, redundancy or an inheritance from a great aunt?

Unfortunately for those who regard all is riferously to close questioning, the law of the current owners – something that a^2 is not see it that way. Estate agents we refused to do. that they find suspect about the funding of a purchase.

At present, six leading City of London law firms are being investigated on suspicion of laundering money. One detective referred to the fact the people are still walking into a solicitor's office, buying a house and giving him cash.

"A lot of people are not as inquisitive as they should be," says a spokesman for the ational Criminal Intelligence Ser-vice A solicitor who accepts a deposit of £1m for conveyancing fees of £2,000 stands to make a lot of interest. Estate agents also should ask harder ques-

tions about where money comes from." This is a view shared by Noel de Kevzer, at FPD Savills' Hampstead office in north London. "If we have any sense

or suspicion that money is being laundered we have to report it. Estate agents are perhaps too ready to pass the onus of responsibility on to a lawyer.

Since complicated financial deals are a regular feature of the international property market in London, experience and a gut feeling are often all they have to go on. "We were recently asked by a their financial affairs as secret and object purchaser to value a house in the name

> dinavia, but the buyers wanted it to look as though the house was being purchased with a bank's finances by putting it through an offshore company," says de Keyzer. "Interestingly, one developer, as the owner, had agreed to do it."

Estate agents tend to get much closer to buyers than do solicitors and can end up with an intimate knowledge of someone's affairs. Even then it can be difficult to separate what is questionable from what is unlawful.

Noel de Keyzer had dealings with a Russian who owned a number of millionpound properties and had a Swiss bank account. "He was a college lecturer who used to be a member of the Communist Party and I was suspicious of where his money was coming from. It may have been perfectly legal, but I referred it to our compliance officer and it did turn out to have come from an illegal source.'

Along with many other agents. Avril Butt of de Groot Collis has seen more bogus buyers with nothing to hide but

Unfortunately for those who regard all their financial affairs as secret and object vociferously to close questioning, the law does not see it that way

their fantasies, than crooks, "But I have been asked to produce a very high valuation for someone who was being lent millions by a Swiss bank. It would have meant he had to put down less himself.

We always have to tread carefully." It is easy to spot a dodgy deal if men in shades and limos turn up to sign a deal. At Knight Frank, Christopher Cornell,

compliance officer for the residential sector, says the buyer with a bodyguard and a suitcase full of cash was more common five or 10 years ago.

He says: "Typically we might be suspicious if someone immediately offered the asking price or even higher, if they only met their solicitors recently or they could not provide effectively backed references. There are signs we all understand that point towards somethrough offshore companies though, since that is commonplace now. Once the matter is reported to me, I decide whether it should be passed on to NCIS

Sweeping changes are being pro-posed by the government to the confiscation and money laundering laws, which would toughen the requirement to report suspicious funds. The lucrative trappings of crime, such as luxurious mancivil courts are given the power of

for investigation."

When buyers say they want to pay cash for a property, they usually mean that only . part of it is being paid for with a loan, whereas an agent would be obliged to report a request to complete all in cash,

says Linda Beaney of Beaney Pearce.

The company has just drawn up guide-lines for the rental market and warns against taking cash as a deposit. "If the depositor changes his mind and requests a cheque, he can then walk away with clean money drawn on a respectable letting agency, having asked you, in effect, to launder cash."

But it can be easy to miss the plot. Ugo Palazzo is a partner with McCormacks thing not being bona fide. You can't Solicitors in east London. All new clients ering matters from finance to identity and he is not unfamiliar with people who try to conceal their identities.

"I was suspicious of someone who responded from Spain to a letter I had sent him only the previous day to an address in Essex. The man wanted to buy a house in the area. I had my doubts and decided not to act for him thinking he might be trying to launder money.

"But I was barking up the wrong sions, will be far easier to confiscate as tree. It transpired that someone connected to an estate agent was involved in back-to-back deals. The property was sold for some unsuspecting client for £35,000, and then sold again for 50 per cent more a week later. You have to think like a policeman these days."

Just what NCIS likes to hear.

STEPPING STONES

ONE WOMAN'S PROPERTY STORY



MARY CHANCE (above) has bought four properties since 1970. She now lives in a two-bedroom mansion flat in Vauxhall, south London. Mary grew up in Devon and Herefordshire but in 1947, as soon as she was old enough, followed her mother's example: "After my father died she roared up to London and I did the same, starting life, as most do, in a bedsit "

In 1969, Mary was renting in a railwayowned building. After it was sold and she was "turned out", she decided to buy, and applied for a mortgage - which, for a single woman, wasn't easy: "I had to get a male guarantor. My father was dead and 1 had no brothers, so my boss did it."

Two properties she found were rejected by her building society as "not the sort we lend on" but her third attempt, a newlyconverted one-bedroom flat near her mother in Bayswater, was successful and

she paid £5,650 in 1970. She got a 20-year mortgage - they would only agree to an endowment for £2,850 - and lived there for five years before selling for £10,000. She then moved to South Kensington, where she bought a larger one-bedroom top floor flat on an 80year lease for £16,000.

This flat was "most attractive but still very tiny", and had 72 tortuous steps up. but no lift. Its best feature was a southfacing terrace where Mary enjoyed the famously hot summer of 1976. Autumn came as a shock: "I became aware that when it rained the roof leaked onto my bed. I'd climb up and siphon it out but there was a lot of water up there."

The owner, "an awkward so and so". lived on the ground floor and refused to repair the roof. In 1979 Mary tired of tarpaulins and "although sad to leave" eventually sold for £32,000. Preparing for imminent retirement, Mary moved downmarket - and bought a two-bedroom flat for £29,000 in West Brompton, overlooking the cemetery.

She expected to live there indefinitely but in 1985, her neighbour below sold to new young owners. "They were perfectly nice but their lifestyle and mine didn't gel." Mary recalls politely. No longer happy in the flat, she sold the remaining 80-year lease for £52,000 and again "moved down". buying the mansion-block flat in which she now lives for £47,750 - with no mortgage, thanks to astute financial planning and the maturation of her endowment.

south of the river, she loves her spacious flat which now has a conservation order. **GINETTA VEDRICKAS**

THOSE MOVES IN BRIEF: 1970 - bought one-bedroom flat in Bayswater for £5.650, sold for £10,000. 1975 - bought South Kensington flat for £16,000, sold for £32,000. 1979 - bought West Brompton flat for £29,000 sold for £52,000. 1985 - bought Vauxhall two-bedroom flat

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for £47,750, now worth around £120,000.

Has the chain gang had its day?

The Government wants to speed up home-buying. But will its plans have the desired effect? By Ginetta Vedrickas

expensive and stress-filled moving process may be cheering this week's launch of proposals by a task group ent on speeding things up. Or will they groan at the thought of paying £400 for a survey of their own property with no guarantee that they will ever be able to sell?

The package aims to hasten a process which is cheaper in England and Wales than most countries but takes on average 12 weeks as opposed to their seven. The measures are intended to reduce gazumping and problems with chains, but the Government is seeking further public views on its proposals before next April.

Launching the package earlier this week, the Housing Minister, Hilary Armstrong, said: "We want a streamlined system that is easier and faster for everyone. We want success without stress."

The proposals stem from the largest-ever home-buying survey. involving 1,500 buyers and sellers, and 700 estate agents, solicitors at senders. The most radical move is the idea of a seller's information pack, which anyone putting their property on the market must pro-

VENDORS CAUGHT in the lengthy, duce. Costing around £400, it will in-further delay the process. clude a survey, copies of title documents, replies to preliminary enquiries, copies of building regulations, a draft contract and any guarantees of work carried out.

Consumer groups broadly welcome these measures, but critics foresee little improvement to a system where lenders will still insist on most delays and says that "cutting buyers' own surveys. Estate agents fees to the bone" hasn't helped: "If and surveyors warn that fees will rise as a result.

Michael Day, the vice president of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, questions the ethics of forcing vendors to obtain surveys, which he believes will

THE PROPOSALS IN BRIEF:

 Sellers' information packs • Buyers to get "in principle" mortgages

· Lenders to process mortgage applications within two days Councils to process searches within 10 days · Lenders to offer "chainbreaking" loans

Insurers to develop policies

to protect against gazumping

Mr Day thinks a "massive cultural change" is needed if buyers are to trust vendors' surveys and believes the only way of getting a faster service is to increase spending. "We must invest in people and technology, which inevitably costs more," he says. He blames the legal process for you pay peanuts you get monkeys."

David Parkin, a surveyor, agrees that fees will probably be pushed up as surveyors extend personal indemnity insurance to protect themand vendors.

He is concerned with the potential for duplicity: "Vendors with a bad survey may disguise the problem and get another survey from a different firm." Mr Parkin thinks that the proposals could dampen the housing market: "Why should people be deterred from putting their properties on and 'testing' to see what they can get?"

Government plans relate to all parties involved in the moving process. This includes buyers getting "in-principle mortgages" before making offers and lenders



selves against litigation from buyers Some professionals fear that Government plans could actually dampen the housing market

supplying title documents to the a homebuying service, says: "I can't seller's solicitor within five days and processing mortgage applications within two. They suggest that flexible "chain-breaking" mortgages could replace expensive bridging loans and want insurers to devise specific policies to protect against

gazumping. It is unclear if measures will become compulsory through legislation. However, some professionals fear that non-mandatory proposals will be ineffectual. Penelope Tilston, of Tilley Carrow,

see this working on a voluntary basis. Forcing people to get full surveys initially will certainly slow the process."

She also sees differences within the market: "At the top end the process is fast enough, and we shouldn't rush people into what is likely to be the biggest investment they will make."

Some pockets within the industry have introduced efficiency-improving strategies. Barclays Mortgages is testing the use of electronic links

with valuers and offers telephone conveyancing. And a pilot scheme in Hull allows customers to complete on their purchase up to seven days before completing on their sale and so avoids undue stress.

Some estate agents already have government plans in operation. The Suffolk agency Bedfords introduced seller's information packs in 1992: Before, a buyer would offer £20,000 more for a property than other interested buyers but would reduce his or her offer by this amount when they got the survey back. you move.

Now there can be no renegotiation." But isn't the survey an unwelcome expense for sellers? "Five hundred pounds spent now saves you £5,000 renegotiating later. If problems arise from the survey you can either leave it, get the work done or get a quote, which most vendors do," says Mr Bedford,

So if you're stuck in a chain. waiting for a mortgage or just waiting, contact Hilary Armstrong with your suggestions. At worst it will pass the time and might even help

HOT SPOT LEWISHAM, SOUTH LONDON

No longer so cheap – but increasingly cheerful



ewisham is a before and after kind of place which, the abundance of scaffolding suggests, is strongly in the during stage. "The scoth-east of London generally has been notoriously cheap and has been catching up a bit." says Tony Ravenscroft of Acorn estate agents. But Docklands has been stretching its tentacles steadily in Lewisham's direction, and both the Jubilee Line and Docklands Light Railway extensions are well under way. Lewisham has arrived.

Manj Gill, of Oak estate agents, notes: "We are getting buyers and renters from north London who can get an extra two bedrooms here compared with north London."

The many period houses which constitute Lewisham's forgotten treasures are available in most sizes and styles, ranging from fully refurbished to badly dilapidated. The wrecks tend to be temptingly priced. but Gill warns: "Lenders are not keen to lend on this kind of property, and you will also need cash to do it up. Ordinary buyers will also need enough money to live somewhere else during the rebuilding."

Developers are snapping up these bargains, and in some parts of Lewisham "entire streets have been improved by these developers buying several properties on one road, observes Gill. These roads are now scaffold-free zones.

Like its properties, Lewisham itself is improving. "CCTV and the police have helped clear the area of crime," says Gill. The new library doubles as an art gallery for local talent, the high road has been pedestrianised, and nearby Ladywell Arena has Turkish and Russian baths, a health suite, a But they well may rise after it is opswimming pool, an outdoor athletics erational," says Ravenscroft. track and other health and fitness-

Ravenscroft's opinion, are three local hours, even if they are derelict." conservation areas located away from



Its many period houses constitute one of Lewisham's hidden treasures

the town centre: Brockley (SE4), St John's (SE8), and Telegraph Hill (New Cross Gate, SE14). But some streets off Lewisham High Street are attractive, convenient and, with no through traffic, quiet: Bonfield Road, Limes Grove, Clarendon Rise, Mercia Grove. However, despite the recent coun-

trywide slowing of the property market, Ravenscroft says: "Here the market is still very good. Sales are being maintained. Prices are not going up as fast as they were, but the volume is still there.

When prices do rise, they are likely to take the express track: "Vendors have been talking about the Docklands Light Railway extension, although I haven't seen increased prices yet.

The lack of connections is not The choicest residential areas, in Lewisham, properties are sold within ROBERT LIEBMAN

Transport: Rail links to London Bridge, Cannon Street and Charing Cross stations. Lewisham to Canary Wharf in 17 minutes and to Bank in 30 minutes when the Docklands Light Railway extension opens in 2000. Until then, hus service is frequent to the

Prices: Vary according to the condition of the property, and the condition and quality of the road. Two-bedroom flats sell for as little as £60-65,000, and three-bedroom houses for less than £100,000.

foot tunnel at Greenwich.

currently being refurbished has two loft bedrooms and four

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THE LOW-DOWN

ordinary bedrooms, the smallest of which is 12ft by 12ft; the price is about £180.000 (Oak Estates). A wreck of a flat is going for only £39,950, but the bedroom is 12ft by

Read the Small Print: Fairview has a few new flats at Conington Place and is absorbing a 5 per cent deposit, but the price tag reads "from £69,995*". The asterisk signifies that the price represents the approximate benefit of the special financing deal available.

Council Tax: Band A in Lewisham is £456, and Band H is £1,367.

Panto in Lewisham? Oh no they

don't: Lewisham Theatre is actually in Catford

Shoppers' Delight: Lewisham has a daily (except Sunday) street market, and most Sundays a towncentre car park hosts a car-boot sale, reputêdiy Europe's largest. There are also plenty of shops. department stores and boutiques.

Milling About: The wooden water wheel and pond in the Citibank complex are all that's left of a Victorian corn mill, one of many that lined the Ravensbourne River.

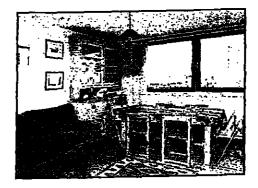
Estate Agents: Acorn (0181-852 4455); Oak Estates (0181-355 3535); Fairview (0181-694 1183).

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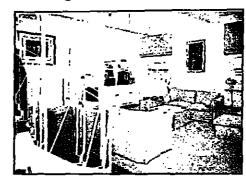
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IT'S A short stroll to the new British Library from Jessel House, an Edwardian mansion block in Judd Street, King's Cross, central London. The snappily decorated two-bedroom penthouse flat in the block is for sale, with lift, entry phone and resident caretaker. The perfect pied a terre (if you have a house in the country), it has a 16ft by 12ft sitting room with fitted bookshelves and wooden floor, separate study with polished wood block floor and fitted kitchen. From the main bedroom there are views to Canary Wharf. £179,000 through Frank Harris (0171-387 0077).



CHELSEA MANOR Studios, in Flood Street, London SW3, is an original Victorian purpose-built block of artists' studios, near the King's Road. Number 10, on the second floor, has just been refurbished and has a 21ft by 19ft studio/reception room, facing north for the best light, a separate galleried bedroom, bathroom and small kitchen. There's 45 years left to run on the lease which is being sold through Egerton for £275,000, Call 0171-584 7020.

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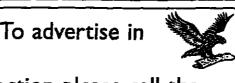
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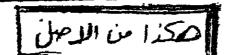
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